



# THE VALLEY PATRIOT

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2017

DECEMBER, 2017  
VOLUME 14, ISSUE 12  
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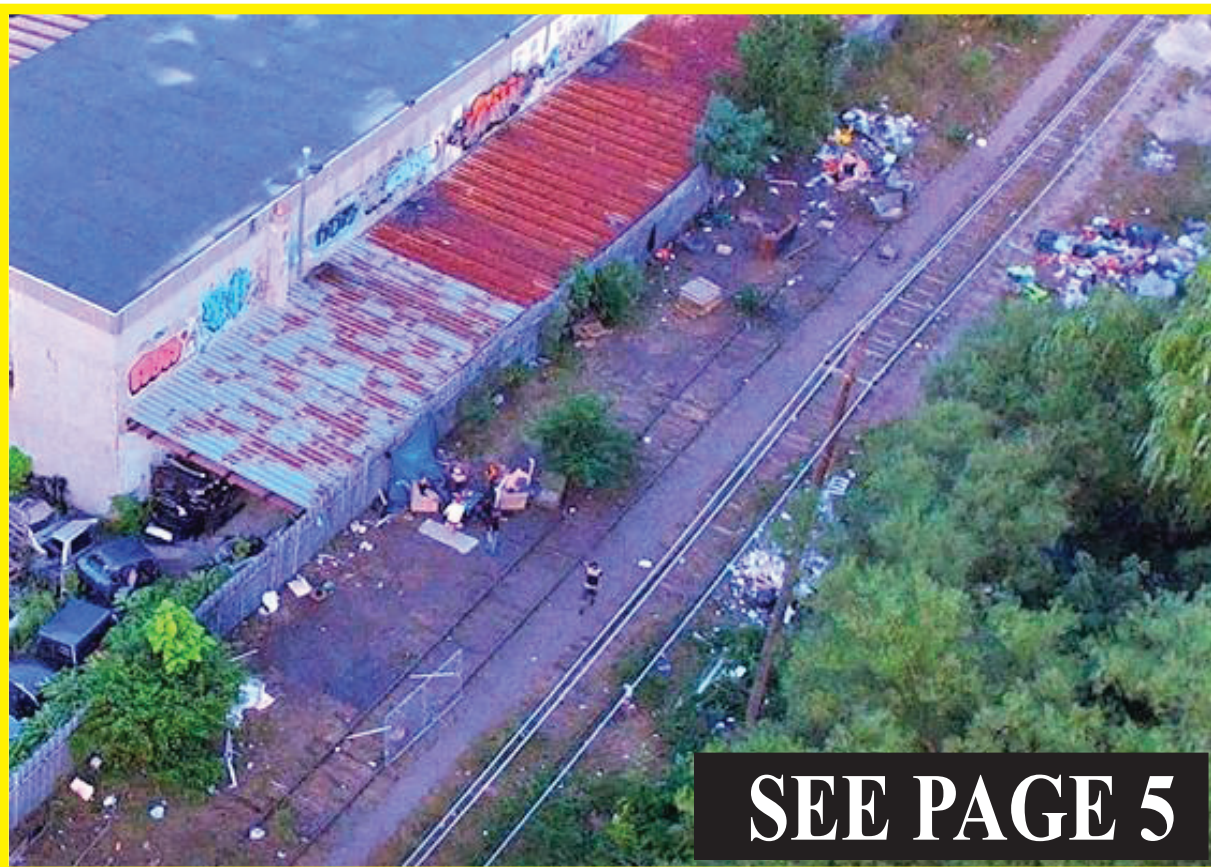
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## Rail Trails Become Heroin Trails



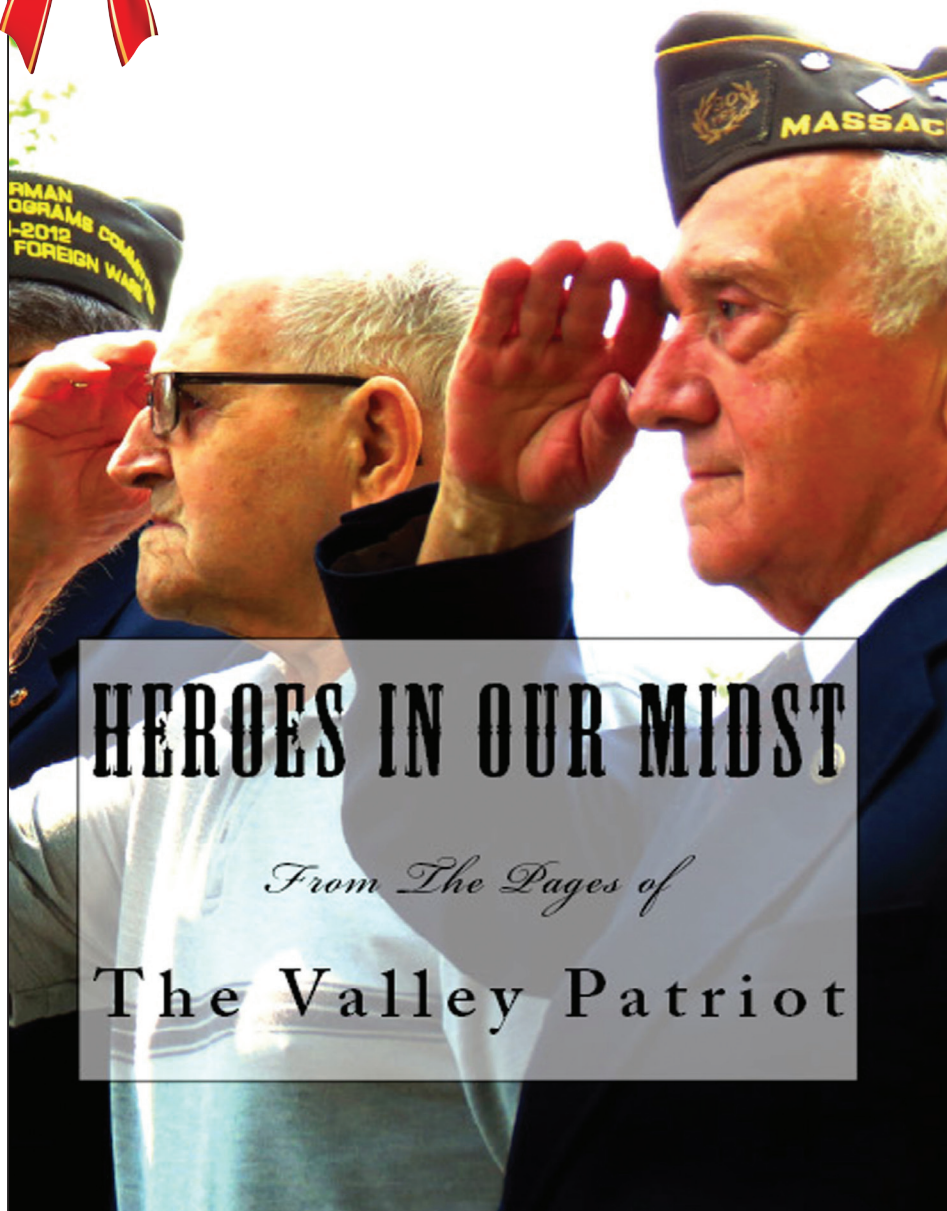
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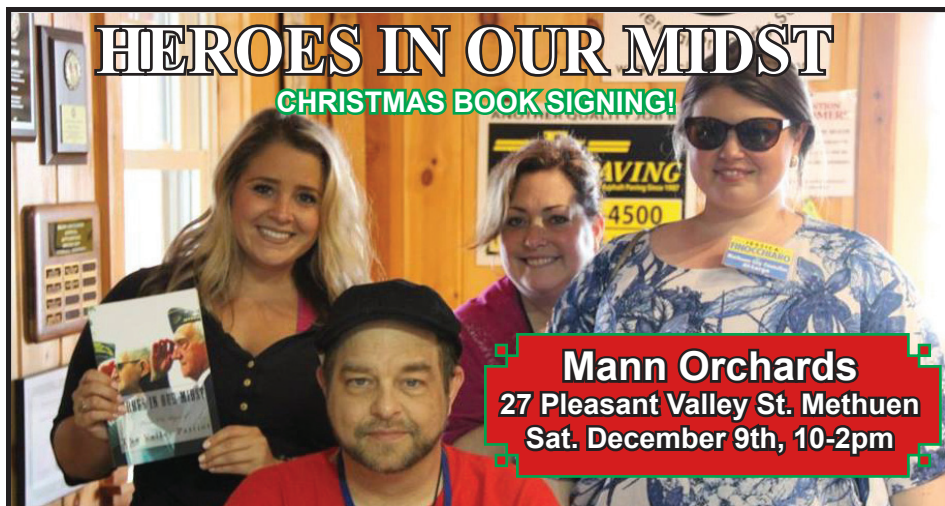
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# EDITORIAL - We Stand With Turtle Boy Sports

## Facebook Censors “Turtleboy Sports” Page For Bullying Deadbeat Dads and Corrupt Officials

Last month this editorial page highlighted the problem of corporate social media tech-giants (like Facebook and Twitter) censoring political messages their employees don’t agree with.

We were inundated by reader emails telling us that this was a manufactured crisis, claiming that Facebook and Twitter don’t censor messages based on the political or social views of their employees.

They are wrong.

Within a week of our editorial hitting the streets, a legitimate news website called Turtle Boy Sports ([turtleboysports.com](http://turtleboysports.com)) had their Facebook page permanently taken down.

Turtle Boy is a news site that exposes government corruption, people abusing the court system, and local con-artists trying to defraud the public.

Because they don’t speak the approved language of political correctness, and target those who are genuinely doing evil, Turtle Boy has a long list of detractors who would like to see them go away.

Facebook is apparently one of them.

As their excuse to censor the site, the employees of the Facebook corporation have accused Turtle Boy of “bullying”.

That’s right, Facebook has now become kindergarten.

This subjective standard of “bullying” on Facebook is troubling. Is CNN going to be censored for “bullying” Donald Trump? Is Fox News going to be censored for “bullying” Hillary Clinton?

Fur sure, Facebook isn’t wrong about Turtle Boy being a “bully”. But, let’s look at who they are “bullying” and why.

Last month, they published an investigative report on (err.. we mean “bullied”) people like District Attorney Joe Early, who abused his influence to order MA State Troopers to change a police report to cover up the arrest of a judge’s daughter.

The Trooper refused and was severely punished. Turtle Boy exposed that too, and because they did, that trooper has been put back at his original post.

Also, because of Turtle Boy’s story, the head of the Massachusetts State Police had to step down in disgrace. Others were demoted, “retired” or had their “resignations” accepted. There is now a criminal investigation into the corruption of the incident that Turtle Boy exposed.

Turtle Boy has also targeted lowlives who try to defraud the public with fake GoFund Me pages (a social media fundraising site), deadbeat dads who stalk or harass their ex-wives and girlfriends, and welfare cheats who brag about their crimes on the very Facebook platform that has now censored Turtle Boy.

Turtle Boy names names.

And because they do, they inadvertently highlight the fact that Facebook isn’t censoring the pages of those bragging about their crimes. It’s embarrassing to say the least.

For sure, Turtle Boy’s reporting has also ruffled the feathers of those they cover. We’re sure those stalkers, harassers, deadbeat dads, and corrupt government officials were calling and emailing Facebook the minute their own stories broke, demanding Turtle Boy be taken down.

What is most troubling is that the employees of the Facebook corporation would so willingly capitulate to these criminals. In doing so, they set a horrifying standard for what is acceptable for you to read - with them making the decision.

If the people who run the multi-billion-dollar corporation that is Facebook, can arbitrarily take down news sites based on the subjective political views of the person at Facebook evaluating it - it won’t be long before The Valley Patriot, The Broadside, or the Tribune could qualify for Facebook censorship next.

The subjective term of “decency” is no standard for censoring speech, especially when that speech is true.

Turtle Boy’s investigative reports are true.

In a sea of fake news like CNN and Infowars, we believe there is a desperate need for the public to have access to these real news stories about real people, involved in real scandals, no matter how insensitive the presentation might be.

Facebook doesn’t.

We stand with Turtle Boy!

## Hero Among Us at the Garden

For Dorothy “Dot” Hayes of the Jason Hayes Foundation, her week ended being honored in center court at the Boston Celtics/Orlando Magic game on November 24, 2017.

Establishing the aforementioned foundation in 2005 in memory of her late son, Jason Hayes, Dot and other members of the foundation’s goal is to “raise money for young adults who have suffered from early childhood trauma including mental, physical and emotional abuse.”

Working with endless amounts of families over the past 12+ years, Hayes and the foundation has sent families in need to programs to get the support they need in order to grow and develop in the right direction under the tough circumstances they are experiencing.

“I do it for Jason,” said Hayes remembering her son who tragically passed away at the age of 14. Speaking to Hayes,

she mentioned that children who express different behaviors growing up may not intend to act that way, and need to seek help because they are trying to behave in



a well manner but don’t always know for certain how to express good feelings.

Hayes wants everyone to remember her son who grew up in Reading. She mentioned her son had a great spirit and did amazing things, unexpected at times. “One time after a Christmas party, Jason saw two guests walk down the walkway that was covered with ice.

Jason must have had a feeling they were a little nervous of the icy walkway, walked up to them and said ‘It’s a good night for a walk’ offering his arm for support”.

For more information about the Jason Hayes Foundation, go to [www.jason-hayesfoundation.org](http://www.jason-hayesfoundation.org).



## Methuen Fire Donates Coats to Families in Need

The Methuen Fire Department and Methuen Firefighters Local 1691 teamed up with Columbia Gas to hand out 88 coats, hats, and gloves to children as part of Operation Warm at the Greater Lawrence Community Action Council Head Start, 24 Gill Ave. in Methuen. The kids were thrilled to receive their new winter gear, meet our firefighters, and even get to see and play on Methuen Fire trucks. The firefighters did a great job with the kids and made it an incredibly memorable event.

“This is such a great initiative for our department,” Methuen Fire Chief Tim Sheehy said.

“It was great to see our firefighters interact with these children. We are always happy to get out in the community and be involved in worthwhile causes like this, especially when it benefits kids.”

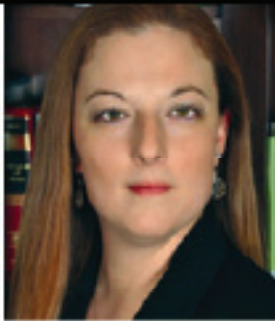
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Meteorological Winter, HUH?

Senator Katy Ives  
MASSACHUSETTS STATE SENATE

I recently testified in front of the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture on a bill I co-sponsored, S448 An Act Promoting Awareness of Safe Recreation in Public Waterways requesting that it be given a favorable recommendation. This bill will institute a state-wide sewage discharge notification system so that residents will know when Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO's) discharges make rivers unsafe.

Currently, when we experience heavy rainfall, storm water floods the sewer system and the mix of storm water and wastewater can discharge into rivers and public waterways, exposing people to contaminated water that can cause illness. Exposure to waters contaminated by untreated sewage discharges can cause inflammation of the intestines; respiratory, eye, and ear infections; skin rashes; hepatitis; and other diseases. Some discharges are treated with chlorine before entering the river, but even treated discharges can carry contaminants including heavy metals, pharmaceutical chemicals, and nutrients such as nitrogen

and phosphorous that can damage ecosystems and lead to algae blooms.

The Merrimack River is a waterway that connects my district from Newburyport to North Andover and about 600,000 people drink from the River. The most recent storm that caused massive power outages also cut off power at the pumping station of the Greater Lawrence Sanitary District Wastewater Treatment Facility for 13 hours. This resulted in the discharging of millions of gallons of raw sewerage into the Merrimack River with little to no notification to the surrounding communities.

This bill will require all permitted CSOs provide a public notification alert within one hour of discharge, requires the Department of Environmental Protection to centralize CSO discharge data on their website and all CSO operators must install a discharge flow monitoring meter. S448 also requires municipalities and CSOs to post signs at outfalls of affected public access points. CSOs typically discharge hundreds of thousands to millions of gallons of sewage per extreme precipitation event. There are 181 active CSO outfalls throughout the Commonwealth, which collectively dis-



WATER: PAGE 13

Al Kaprielian  
VALLEY PATRIOT WEATHERMAN

GOOD EEEEEVENING!

Welcome to December and the start of what is called the meteorological winter.

During this month we will see the shortest days of the year as well as the longest nights of the year. The winter solstice will occur during this month.

The winter solstice is when the tilt of the earth in the northern hemisphere (here) is furthest away from the sun. This is what causes the changes in daylight hours.

After the winter solstice we will start to see the days begin to get longer because the earth will start tilting closer to the sun.

During the month of November we saw cooler temperatures compared to October. A series of cold fronts along with wind brought cooler temperatures in November.

The jet stream remained fairly progressive last month. This pattern caused air fronts and low pressure systems to move along and not stall out.

This progressive air flow pattern in the atmosphere was the result of no air masses, creating a block in the atmosphere. This caused a more zonal flow to the jet stream.

This zonal flow kept all the real cold, arctic air up at the north pole. It also brought air off the Pacific Ocean which is not as cold as the air up at the north pole.

However, long range computer models do show a change in the weather pattern for mid-December. If these long range computer models are right, we will see more amplification to the jet stream.

This amplification will bring some of the cold, arctic air from Siberia into our region. This will result in much colder temperatures by Mid-December for our region.

With more amplification to the jet stream will also come the arrival of the Greenland HIGH PRESHA! System. The Greenland HIGH will cause more upper level ridging over Greenland. In contrast, we will see more troughing over our area.

This trough can lead to storm development due to more clashing of cold arctic air with milder air over the Gulf coastal states. If storm development does occur, this doesn't mean we will get a lot of storms. It will depend on the amount of phasing between the northern and southern branches of the jet stream.

If there is no phasing between the two jet streams, then this will mean we will see more of a cold and dry pattern. Time will tell how much phasing occurs between the two jet streams.

In the past we have seen some big snowstorms during the month of December, so have your snow shovels ready! Especially in the EVENING!

The one good thing about meteorological winter is that hurricane season is finally over. November 30th was the last day of hurricane season.

This hurricane season was an active one. We saw hurricane Harvey, and the major impact it had on Houston Texas.

Also, hurricanes Irma and Maria caused major deaths and property damage. We saw the widespread damage Maria did to Puerto Rico. We also saw Tropical Storm Jose produce rain and wind in our area with the greatest impact of rain & wind over Cape Cod & the Islands.

These hurricanes became very intense due to the very warm ocean waters which were in the mid-upper 80s. The hurricanes get all their energy from the very warm ocean waters. Ocean temperatures in the Atlantic basin between the U.S. East Coast and the African Coast were above normal.

Next month we will recap December's weather and will see if the Greenland HIGH PRESHA! system did develop along with a more amplified jet stream. We will also take a look at what to expect in the month of January and recap the temperatures and precipitation for 2017. Until then, prepare for winter and when the first snowstorm occurs remember to keep the speed down when driving and also allow extra time for travel!!!

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# If You Build It, They Will Come - Rail Trails Become Heroin Trails

Last month, the state legislature approved giving Lawrence another \$1.5M for ... get this ... improvements to the “rail trail”.

For those who don’t know what the “rail trail” is, check this out.

Your local and state officials have been spending millions of your tax dollars every year to create pretty walking areas along dead rail road lines. They stretch all over the Merrimack Valley.

After millions are spent, these areas are then taken over by homeless addicts who set up tents, create piles of garbage, and shoot heroin every single day, hidden away from the general public.

It’s happening.

We cover it on Facebook every day.

And it doesn’t matter if you are talking about North Andover or Lawrence, Groveland, or Salem NH. Rail Trails have become the preferred squatting grounds for drug users, drug dealers, and other types of criminals who understand what our clueless politicians don’t, the value of a secluded area hidden from public view, and only accessible by foot. It’s the perfect place to commit crimes.

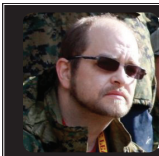
Ask any police officer who has had to respond to an overdose anywhere on the rail trail. In Lawrence they get 8 to 10 calls a week, and that’s on a slow week.

The cops I talk to on the scene of these “narcan” calls describe the trail of needles they have to follow and climb through to get to the “man down” from an overdose on a rail trail. Gunshot calls on the rail trail are much less fun for our first responders.

I particularly hope the people of Methuen are paying attention to this problem. It’s growing there faster and more dangerously than in Lawrence. Something really bad is going to happen over there, and you won’t be able to say you didn’t know.

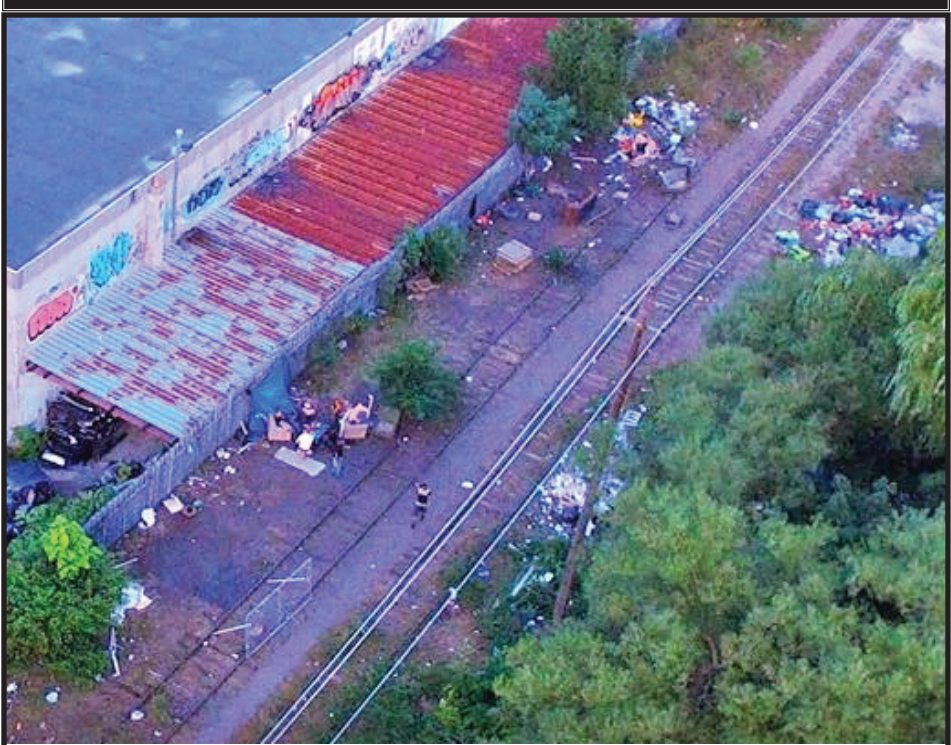
IS THIS BY DESIGN?

This huge rail trail funding push over the last few years has been sold to the public



## PAYING ATTENTION!

with Tom Duggan



Littered with garbage and dirty heroin needles, the Lawrence “Rail Trail” is home to squatters with living room sets arranged near piles of garbage, tents further up the rail to pass out in, and a hidden place to deal and shoot heroin and fentanyl. But this isn’t just happening in Lawrence.

with fairy tale promises of safe and clean fresh air spaces, where families can hold hands and take nature walks, singing songs, and bringing back a sense of “community” for everyone.

Most of the people who advocate for rail trail spending when there are so many other problems to solve are puppets for leadership in the house and senate. They don’t use the rail trail. They don’t know anyone who ever will use the rail trail. They really

could care less about a rail trail.

They are political opportunists.

I believe the true purpose of this rail trail funding craze is a deliberate attempt to create permanent places for homeless people to set up shop - hidden from the public - where they can create mini tent cities and shoot all the heroin they want - a place where they aren’t a menace to the rest of us every day.

Get it?

State leaders are trying to hide the problem of opioid abuse, homelessness and the myriad of social problems caused when you combine the two.

*They are not trying to solve it.*

I have driven the rail trail from Methuen to Lawrence more than once. I have also walked and driven parts of the rail trail in other communities numerous times.

They are cesspools of dirty needles, piles of garbage, prostitution, and in many places, heroin tent encampments of users and drug dealers.

No elected official should ever support funding for rail trails.

That bears repeating.

NO elected official should ever approve one dollar of our tax money for rail trails.

I have never once heard a voter at election time say, “you know, I’m voting for Suzie because she increased millions in funding for a rail trail”.

Sure, politicians get photo ops to pretend for the little people that they are actually accomplishing something when that rail trail check comes in. But, at the end of the day they are literally throwing money out the window.

That \$1.5M in Lawrence alone (more elsewhere) could have funded quite a few new police officers.

It could have funded new voting machines, a new communication system for the fire and police, better teachers, maybe even more home heating assistance for poor Latino children going to bed cold every night in the dead of winter.

But it’s not.

Which makes you have to wonder. Why would our state leaders choose to take tax money needed for so many other things, and use it for landscaping along rail road lines. Lines that 99.99% of the people in our communities will never, ever be able to enjoy.

Weird huh?

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Theta Phi Alpha at Merrimack College filled Daybreak Homeless Shelter's dining room in Lawrence with lots of donations for all of their guests. Daybreak is run by the Greater Lawrence Psychological Center.

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## Lawrence Cop Second to be Declared a Line of Duty Death in 2017

Earlier this year The Valley Patriot learned about Lawrence Police Officer Jeremiah O'Connor had died in the line of duty back in the 1950s but his sacrifice was never recognized. Officer O'Connor has since been declared a line of duty death and his family given the "last call" they deserved at The Valley Patriot's charity BASH last March.

Now, Lawrence has another name to add to the police memorial in Washington D.C., Eugene Scanlon.

In 1972, Lawrence Police Officer and hero veteran WWII and Korea, Eugene Scanlon died as the result of injuries he sustained after being savagely beaten by four men in the parking lot of Central Catholic during a high school dance.

Officer Scanlon didn't die right away and his name has never been honored as a line of duty death. His family never received line of duty death benefits.

This month, the state legislature, through the efforts of Lawrence State Rep. Frank Moran, has rectified that injustice as the House and Senate voted unanimously to declare Eugene Scanlon's sacrifice as officially "in the line of duty".

Governor Charlie Baker is scheduled to sign the bill next week.

Just as Jeremiah O'Connor's grandson Frank Daly became a Lawrence Police Officer, Scanlon's son, Eugene also became a Lawrence cop and has been serving the public for more than 18 years. His father will be honored at the Valley Patriot Charity BASH on March 23rd at the Firefighter's Relief In, as was O'Connor.

### A CHANCE ENCOUNTER

The younger Officer Scanlon says he never knew why his father's death was not deemed "line of duty" back then, but that he had always wondered about it. Then, he recalls, a chance encounter with an old friend of his father's set everything in motion.

"It was a fluke really. I was in court with City Attorney Charlie Boddy on a firearms case. I'm the firearms officer for the department so we work on gun cases as he represents the city."

"Attorney Bob Menasian was there, and Bob had tried to help us 45 years ago when my father was first assaulted. He really did a lot for us," Scanlon recounted.

"He said 'how's your mom doing?'

and started talking about my dad's case. Attorney Boddy was really interested and asked me, so I told him the story. He asked, 'How is it that nobody knows about this?'"

"Two days later he came to me and said he'd really like to get my dad's line of duty status changed. I said of course, but I didn't think anything would come of it. It had been so long, but I said 'sure' why not."

A few months later Attorney Boddy had a resolution drafted for the city council, and in June of 2015 the Lawrence City Council approved a resolution declaring Lawrence Police Officer Eugene Scanlon a line of duty death.

The city held a ceremony at City Hall and because of the efforts of Attorney Boddy, on July 4, 2015 a corner on Davis Street was dedicated in Officer Scanlon's name.

From there Attorney Boddy and the younger Scanlon worked on changing some of the wording from the city council resolution to see if the state legislature would then approve an official declaration that Officer Eugene Scanlon Sr. had died in the line of duty.

"When he called me and told me the story I was all in with both feet. What a terrible story," Lawrence State Rep. Frank Moran said.

"When Officer Scanlon called me and explained the circumstances of his father's death, I was happy to walk the legislation through the house and lobby for the Scanlon family. This is one of those things that makes you feel good about your job. When you can help a family like this, a family that has had to bear horrible hardships because someone they loved made the ultimate sacrifice; it restores your faith in the system a little."

Officer Scanlon said that he was really glad to see his father recognized while his mom was still alive to see it.

"She's a strong woman, she's 86 years old and she still has all her faculties, she's still pretty sharp and she deserves to see this happen. I was born six months after he died and she didn't have it easy raising four kids by herself."

Scanlon said that even though his family was entitled to 45 years of line of duty death benefits, they waived the application for death benefits "because we didn't want anyone to think that we were doing this for money. Money had nothing

## Legislature Declares Death of Lawrence Police Officer Eugene Scanlon a Line of Duty Death

An Act confirming the classification of Lawrence police patrolman Eugene Scanlon, Sr.'s death on February 12, 1972, as killed in the line of duty providing any additional or retroactive benefits to his survivors as a result of the confirmation of the classification.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Whereas, Eugene Scanlon, Sr. was a native of Detroit, Michigan, served courageously as an Army Paratrooper in World War II, and again answered his country's call serving as a hazardous deep sea diver in the Korean War;

Whereas, he was appointed a reserve member of the Lawrence Police Department on March 14, 1965, leading to his appointment as a regular police patrolman on November 30, 1969;

Whereas, Lawrence Patrolman Eugene Scanlon, Sr., proudly wore badge #68, and for the following almost seven years continuously, honorably, and meritoriously served the Lawrence Police Department until his service-related death in 1972;

Whereas, his service notably includes a Citation from then-Lawrence Alderman Philip C. DiAdamo for Patrolman Scanlon's life-saving action on April 23, 1971, when he crawled through heavy smoke and flames to rescue a woman, trapped in an upper apartment, during a fire at 213 Jackson Street;

Whereas, fellow officer, Patrolman Paul Sutton, was simultaneously scheduled to work a detail at a Central Catholic High School Dance, and work a regular shift, Sutton asked Scanlon to cover the detail. Scanlon initially declined, citing that he had worked 13 days straight, and needed a rest. Despite his initial refusal, out of a sense of loyalty to a fellow officer, Scanlon eventually accepted the work as a favor to his co-worker and friend;

Whereas, at approximately 11pm on January 28, 1972, while quelling a disturbance at that same dance, and attempting to effect arrests, Officer Scanlon was attacked by a group of youths. He received multiple severe injuries including: abrasions to his hands and knees, a kick to the groin, and blows to the head;

Whereas, Officer Scanlon was immediately transported to the emergency room for treatment of his injuries. He was released, but subsequently readmitted to the hospital on February 10, 1972 for a relapse of his condition. He then expired on February 12, 1972. His death, according to his treating physician, resulted from complications arising from the attack on January 28, 1972.

Whereas, at the time of his death, Officer Scanlon was survived by his wife, Jane, daughters Susan-Jane and Kathleen Anne, a son, William, and his unborn son, Eugene.

Whereas, the lasting effects of his premature and violent death continue to burden his widow, who never remarried,



ried, and raised their four children alone, always knowing that their absent father could never be replaced;

Whereas, his son and namesake, Eugen Scanlon, currently and honorably serves the Lawrence Police Department as a patrolman, wearing the same badge, #68, worn by his father;

Whereas, Officer Scanlon's retirement records deem his death to be the natural and proximate result of personal injuries sustained, or hazards undergone, while in the performance of his duties without serious or willful misconduct on his part;

Whereas, the police records also indicate his injury in the line of duty status on January 28, 1972, and that his death was the natural and proximate result of the injuries sustained on that date;

Whereas, his treating physician, Dr. Edward Broadus opined that the attack of January 28, 1972 resulted in his death;

Whereas, Massachusetts General Laws chapter 32, Section 94 creates a rebuttable presumption that Officer Scanlon died in the line of duty, the City of Lawrence, through its retirement board recognizes the death as work-related, and there exists no contrary evidence to rebut the statutory presumption;

Whereas, application for inclusion of his name in the fallen police officers memorial in Washington, D.C. have gone without adequate response, and efforts are being made to effect such recognition while his widow is still available to attend any related ceremony in Washington;

Now therefore, notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary:

SECTION 1. The death of Lawrence Police Patrolman Eugene Scanlon on February 12, 1972 shall henceforth be confirmed, deemed, and considered as an officer killed in the line of duty for purposes of public recognition on literature, documents, memorials, and monuments to officers killed in the line of duty.

SECTION 2. This act shall confer no additional survivor benefits upon Officer Scanlon's widow and surviving children.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

ing to do with any of this. We thought waiving the benefits at the onset would help make this process go through a lot easier, so we had no problem doing that."

Eugene followed in his father's footsteps to become a Lawrence Police Officer, but says he never dreamed his father's status could even be changed. Now, so many years later, Officer Scanlon says his father's sacrifice will hopefully be added to the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial in Washington, D.C. where the names of

every police officer ever killed in the line of duty has their name etched on a national monument.

Lawrence Police Officer Eugene Scanlon had four children. Eugene Scanlon, Bill Scanlon, Susan Arenella, and Kathleen Phair. Scanlon's mom Jane Scanlon is 86 years old and lives in Salem N.H.

Eugene Scanlon is the fourth police officer deemed to have died in the line of duty in the City of Lawrence. The others are: Peter Manning, Jeremiah O'Connor, and Thomas Duggan, Sr.





Left: Methuen Fire Chief Sheehy with Ret. Deputy Chief Ripley and Mike Giarrusso. Right: Officers of the year Shawn Tardiff, and Brian Hellman and Kenneth Pilz

# Methuen Exchange Names Police, Firefighters of the Year

Each year, the Methuen Exchange Club honors police officers and firefighters of the year at their annual award dinner. The club also gives awards for patriotic businesses called the “So Proudly We Hail” award, as well as The Book of Golden Deeds Award.

Firefighter of the Year 2017, Retired Deputy Chief Charles Ripley III.

Charlie “Chuck” Ripley was appointed to the Methuen Fire Department on March 14, 1976. He retired officially from the department on July 1, 2017. Over 40 years of faithful and steady service to the people of Methuen.

Charlie graduated from the Lowell Technological Institute with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology but felt the calling of the fire service. He decided to join the department following in the footsteps of his Dad. His Dad served the department from 1946 to 1982 retiring as a Deputy Chief. He passed away in 2010 but I’m sure is here tonight in spirit.

Charlie was promoted to Lieutenant in 1979 and was promoted to Deputy Chief in 1999. Charlie was universally respected in the department and was known for his calm and even demeanor at fire scenes and around the station. He truly led by example. His professional and personal lives were models for our younger members to emulate.

He is joined here tonight by his wife Shirley and his sons David with wife Becky, and Jim with wife Carolyn.

His grandchildren Hannah and Emma are also here tonight to see their “Papa” receive this award.

Police Officer of the Year 2017 Officer Shawn Tardif:

Officer Shawn Tardif was born and raised in Lawrence and is a 1992 graduate of Central Catholic HS. He also attended Worcester Academy, before moving on to the University of Massachusetts-Boston where he earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Criminal Justice. Shawn graduated the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Corrections Academy, before working for the Essex County Sheriff’s Department. Shawn then graduated from the Lowell Police Academy, and joined the City of Methuen Police Department. Shawn is currently assigned to the Patrol Division, and is a member of the NEMLEC regional response team, and the Methuen Police Special Operations Unit.

In 2011, Shawn received the Department lifesaving medal, for performing CPR on an un-responsive female. Shawn currently resides in Methuen, with his wife Stacey, and is the proud father of three active children, Rory, Mathieu, and Camille.

Police Officer of the Year 2017 Officer



For the first time ever, the Methuen Exchange Club gave a brand new annual award called the “Veterans’ Services Award” to Vietnam Veteran and former Methuen Veterans’ Services Officer Ed “Hoppy” Curran. The club adopted the idea from The Valley Patriot BASH held in March each year. Club President Jen Jones is a member of the Valley Patriot BASH committee.

**Kenneth Pilz:**

Kenneth Pilz was born on March 30, 1981 at Holy Family Hospital in Methuen, MA. Kenny graduated from Methuen High in 1999 before continuing his education at Utica College of Syracuse University. He graduated in 2003 with a Bachelor’s Degree in Economic Crime Investigation.

He started his career in Criminal Justice as a Deputy Sherriff with the Essex County Sheriff’s Department in 2005. While employed for E.C.S.D., he was a member of the Primary Response and Force Move teams. Kenny graduated from the Boylston Police Academy in 2012 before starting his

EXCHANGE: PAGE 24

# Eileen Donoghue Votes Against Checking Eligibility for MassHealth

**John MacDonald**  
VALLEY PATRIOT LOWELL COLUMNIST

As part of a healthcare reform bill (passed by the Massachusetts Senate at midnight), Eileen Donoghue has voted AGAINST checking eligibility for MassHealth recipients.

Eileen Donoghue is against checking to ensure those getting MassHealth benefits are actually eligible! Doesn’t this defy commonsense? Well she isn’t alone, because most of her extreme progressive liberal fellow state senators, voted the same way. It’s more of... follow the leader, versus being a leader for Eileen Donoghue. How’s this good for any of the communities she currently represents? How is this good for you? Does this vote control spending and taxes or does it increase spending and taxes?

Massachusetts doesn’t have an income problem; it has a spending problem. Ask where the new Rourke Bridge is? Well Lowell? You’re not going to get it with Eileen Donoghue, because her priorities aren’t your priorities. She’d rather allow the state to spend money on paying out fraudulent healthcare services.

It’s one of the many reasons I am running against her for state senator. I will vote to weed out fraud and protect taxpayers in Lowell, Dunstable, Groton, Peppercell, Tyngsborough and Westford.

I’m not a politician and I’ve had enough of career politicians that choose fraud over the people. I’ve had enough of Eileen

Donoghue and her Beacon Hill Mafia that keep taking more and more from our paychecks to support... FRAUD! I’ve had enough of someone representing me at the State Senate that doesn’t have our best interests at heart.

Unlike Eileen Donoghue, who protects the system, I will vote to do the right thing -- and fight to ensure the people who really need these services are actually the ones getting them!

Here’s the details:

CHECK ELIGIBILITY FOR MASSHEALTH (S 2202): Senate 10-28, rejected an amendment that would require the state to conduct regular checks on MassHealth recipients to determine if they are still eligible for the program. MassHealth is the state’s Medicaid program that provides health care for low-income and disabled persons.

Checks would include receiving and requesting information from the Lottery, Unemployment Office and Department of Transitional Assistance (Welfare Department) to see if the financial situation of the MassHealth recipient has improved to the point where the person is no longer eligible for MassHealth.

A “Yes” vote is for the amendment. A “No” vote is against it.

YES: Sen. Anne Gobi, Sen. Bruce Tarr NO: Sens. James Eldridge, Michael Barrett, Eileen Donoghue, Cindy Friedman, and Barbara L’Italian

Are you worried about your future? Then let’s do something about it! [votejohnmacdonald.com](http://votejohnmacdonald.com)

## Mill City Grows Awarded Community First Grant for Healthy Food Access in Lowell

Whole Cities Foundation, an independent nonprofit foundation established by Whole Foods Market, awarded Lowell-based Mill City Grows a \$5,000 Community First Grant, to fund healthy eating initiatives in the city.

Mill City Grows is using grant funds to transform the local food system in Lowell by improving fresh food access and nutrition education resources for local residents. Mill City Grows hosts five community gardens led by community members and produces a combined 30,000 pounds of produce each year.

Now in its second year, the Community First Grant Program aims to support partnerships between Whole Foods Market Team Members and community-led organizations working to increase access to healthy food and nutrition information in their communities. The grant awarded to Mill City Grows in Lowell is part of a \$220,000 investment in 44 organizations in 40 cities across 26 states. Projects funded this year include urban farming projects, mobile produce markets, and educational programs for healthy eating, gardening and agricultural skills.

“At Whole Cities, we have a vision for an America where fresh, healthy food is affordable and accessible to everyone, regardless of income or zip code,” says Walter Robb, Chairman, Whole Cities Foundation Board. “This national grant program allows us to find and support a network of grassroots organizations that have developed unique solutions to increase the availability of fresh, healthy food in their own communities.”

The Community First Grant Program is one example of Whole Foods Market’s “Community First” principles, where community-led organizations and local residents build their local food system. Through the program, the foundation seeks to amplify the outcomes of the solutions set in place by community leaders.

“What’s unique about this program is that it’s our own Team Members who shine the light on these worthwhile grant recipients,” adds Robb. “In some cases, it’s the Team Members themselves who are the grantees, bringing Whole Foods Market’s passion for a healthier world to their own community and with their own heart. We could not be prouder of them.”

The next opportunity for Whole Foods Market Team Members to apply in support of a community organization will be spring 2018.



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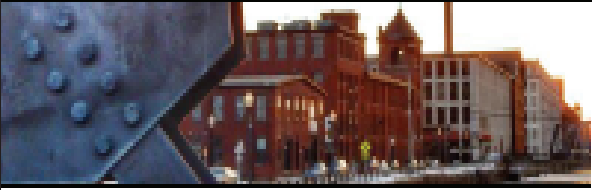
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## Rep. Frank A. Moran Announces Bond Project for New Police Station

BOSTON – After more than 60 years of working in a crumbling building every day, the men and women of the Lawrence police department may finally be getting a new station.

“Back when I was first elected, I said one of my priorities was to help find a way to get the funding for a new police station in Lawrence,” State Rep. Frank Moran told The Valley Patriot.

Seven years later, Moran has secured support from the House of Representatives to fund \$25M for a new police station in Lawrence. Moran says it was frustrating, but is finally glad the project is in the pipeline.

“I mean, the building is in deplorable condition. Nobody should have to work in a building like that, let alone police officers. These guys deserve a lot better work environment, especially given the work they have to do in that station. It’s important work. If you think about it, it’s pretty unreal what they do in that crumbling building every day, and they do it well.”

Moran says that the original plan was for a \$70M public safety center but it quickly became apparent that Lawrence wasn’t going to be able to raise that kind of money, so Moran said they put a ‘plan B’ together for a \$50M new police station.

“I requested the \$50M this year, but we only got \$25M. It’s good news though, it’s the start we were looking for. Over the next year we will look at the various plans for a new station and begin the work of getting the other \$25M.”

“What I’d like to see is a complete public safety complex. I haven’t given up on trying to find an additional \$50M to make that happen, but for right now the plan is for a new police station only.”

Moran said that it will take about a year for the project to begin once the senate votes and Governor Baker signs the funding plan.

Last summer The Valley Patriot videotaped Governor Baker while he toured the station and committed to helping Lawrence get funding for a new building, “Or at the very least money to fix the existing building,” he said at the time.

“I think the governor understands the critical need for a new police station in Lawrence. He came and toured the building and I know he has a good relationship

with the mayor. He understands the need here,” Moran said.

“The speaker and the Chairman Sanchez of Ways and Means were sick of me bugging them, nagging them about the importance of getting this done. I even brought the speaker to tour the station so he could see for himself. I think that helped.”

Moran says the bill still has to be approved in the senate where he has been working with Senator Ives and L’Italien. He said he expects it to pass.

Also passed in Moran’s bill were funding approvals for:

- \* \$1.5 million for the continued renewal of the Lawrence Rail Trail
- \* \$500,000 for a new athletic field for Greater Lawrence Technical School

Moran’s bill passed by a vote of 144-6.

**FUNDING FOR TECH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD**

Speaking in regards to the GLTS athletic field funding, GLTS Superintendent John Lavoie added, “The entire Greater Lawrence Technical School Community is very grateful to Representative Moran and the House of Representatives for supporting a bond bill that provides \$500,000 to help with the construction of a new athletic field at the school.

This funding will allow us to start moving forward with the project this spring but most importantly we will be able to expand our physical education programs at GLTS.

In addition, the new fields will allow for many more youth programs from our sending communities to utilize the facility. Many youth programs in our area are in need of quality fields to compete with more affluent communities. One of those programs is Beyond Soccer which we are excited to support with our new fields. Again, let me say thank you as I believe this bond will open new opportunities for athletic growth and well-being for the young and adult population of our community.”

The bond bill was the subject of negotiations throughout the final day of session, and authorized funding for a number of other local projects across the state. The funding package will now move forward for discussions with the Senate before heading to the executive branch for the same.



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# Nice Work If You Can Get It

Kathy Runge

VALLEY PATRIOT LAWRENCE COLUMNIST

The city election has come and gone and not much has changed. Mayor Rivera is happy thinking that most of the voters preferred him. We have the usual murders and mayhem. I was surprised by the number of people who came out and said they only voted for Rivera because the other choice was Lantigua.

Did you notice people sneaking onto your porch in the middle of the night in October and the beginning of November? Don't worry, it was just campaign workers doing midnight literature drops. You should see less late night trespassing in the foreseeable future. There should be a law against this. Frankly, if one of the literature droppers got shot it would have been their own fault.

During the last year, Mayor Rivera has been giving back slaps and high fives to his administration for giving workers in city unions absolutely the least amount possible in their new contracts, and taking benefits away if they could. But it seems that one group of city employees are getting benefits in a very timely fashion.

The workers at the library used to have 75% tuition reimbursement for classes taken towards a Masters in Library Science but, according to my sources, that benefit was removed a few years ago and hadn't been reinstated.

The library operates under a board of trustees consisting of the mayor, three trustees of the White Fund, and five residents appointed by the mayor. The mayor's chief of staff, Eileen Bernal, is on the board, as well as at least one other ardent supporter.

After the trustees replaced Acting Director Kemal Bozkurt with mayoral office transplant Jessica Valentin, who needs a master's degree to become qualified for the position, it seems employees at the library will be getting educational reimbursements again.

On September 28th, two days after the primary, two union positions at the library were posted. Educational benefits were listed. The agenda for the October 25th meeting of the library trustees contains tuition reimbursement as new business.

The city has to give all library employees this benefit in order for Ms. Valentin to receive it. The city ordinance establishing the position of Library Director states "The library director shall be entitled to all other benefits which other employees in the administrative service of the city receive, and subject to the approval of the library trustees, educational assistance and

differentials which other library employees receive."

Even though the trustees operate the library, its employees are city employees and their benefits are paid for by the city. The probable legal expenses associated with the recent questionable firing of Bozkurt will also be paid for by the city. Are the taxpayers hostage to the Library Board of Trustees?

I realize that one of the purposes of having the library run by trustees was probably to make it a less political institution. That's backfired in a spectacular way.

In other post-election hires, Mayor Rivera rehired his friend, campaign worker, and previous unqualified hire, ex-City Engineer Theodoro Rosario for the DPW position of Supervisor of Projects and Planning.

Councilor Maldonado posed questions about the re-funding of this position, which was not funded in FY17, during the FY18 budget approval process. Mayor Rivera stated that the position had been left vacant due to current and on-going litigation. The job was vacant for over two years. This is a position established by ordinance.

City ordinances state that "Any position established by an ordinance duly adopted by the city council that remains vacant, unfilled, or unoccupied for more than six continuous months shall not be readvertised, reposted and/or refilled without approval by the city council. Prior to issuing permission to readvertise, repost, and refill such a position, the city council shall review and approve the job description, rate of pay, and benefits applicable to the position."

There's a new DPW position being ordained as we speak, Capital Asset Project Manager. It sounds like a reworking of an existing unfilled position, Projects and Planning Manager, one step above Rosario's and with better pay.

I'm sure the mayor has the perfect candidate in mind for it, no need for the personnel department to do any work except fudge their candidate rankings so the "best" candidate gets the job. Other lawsuits at city hall are brewing, I hear the mayor has perfect candidates for some positions that happen to be currently occupied.

Since Lawrence has no pressing problems, the Mayor can devote his time to seeing his favorite people get the jobs and benefits he thinks they deserve. Yes, it's nice work if you can get it.

Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year.

# Police Union: Roll Back Last Call Hours to Midnight

Mayor Agrees - Council President, Not So Much

After another night of violence and mayhem during last-call at Lawrence nightclubs on November 17th, Lawrence Superior Officers Union President Scott McNamara has called for the rolling back of club closing hours from 2am to 12pm.

Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera and at least one city councilor Marc Laplante say they support the last call roll back. But, Council President Kendrys Vasquez does not support the last call roll back, citing his fear that underage drinking will take place at private house parties if the night clubs are closed too early.

Vasquez admits he has accepted campaign donation money from night-club owners, but did not say if he will recuse himself from the vote because of the conflict of interest.

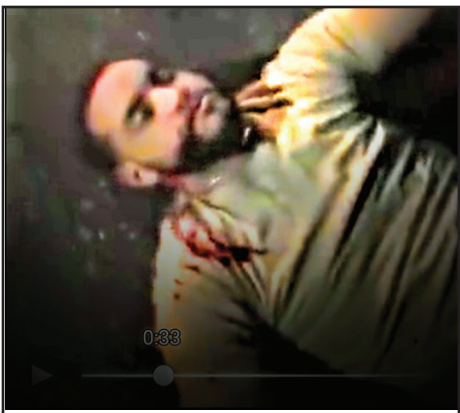
Union President McNamara says he is speaking out after the Valley Patriot posted a video of the violence outside a night club on Mill Street after 2am closing where one man was knocked unconscious.

Police that night were called away from other 911 calls to the area of Essex and Newbury and Essex and Mill Streets as thousands of night club patrons were all leaving the clubs and spilling into the streets at the same time.

Nearly ten years ago, (then) Police Chief John Romero convinced the city council to roll back night club closing hours. "Lawrence experienced an immediate, significant, and measurable reduction in violent crime as the result of that change," McNamara says.

During the Lantigua administration, night club closing times were changed again, to 2am on Friday nights, bringing in a flood of drinkers and partiers from other communities to Lawrence, where last call is one or two hours later.

A new city council was seated at the time (not the current council), and an argument was advanced that, what the city really needed was to extend club closing



Beating victim on Mill Street in Lawrence after being attacked at last call in a nightclub parking lot. The man's attack was broadcast live on Facebook. Police have not said if they have made an arrest in the assault.

hours in order to attract young professionals that sought to settle down in a city that maintained a "vibrant night life".

"This video is an example of that vibrant nightlife that Lawrence Police Officers are forced to contend with almost every weekend night," Captain McNamara told The Valley Patriot.

"With more than 80 liquor licenses in the city, Lawrence Police Officers simply cannot be everywhere at once."

"Last night's violence occurred in spite of the fact that our club patrols were doubled, and augmented by the State Police, Essex County Sheriff's, and Auxiliary Police."

Lawrence City Councilor Marc Laplante said that he has long favored rolling back last call for Lawrence nightclubs.

"I have supported proposals in the past to scale back closing hours at bars and clubs. They should at least be similar to the closing hours in nearby communities. Last call at 2 AM is way too late."

"Under the current ordinance, Lawrence

LAST CALL: PAGE 16

# Legislature Passes Expanded English Language Opportunities

Representative Frank A. Moran (D-Lawrence, Andover, Methuen) joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts Legislature to pass bipartisan legislation that updates the existing statute relative to English language education in the Commonwealth's public schools. An Act relative to language opportunity for our kids, also known as the LOOK bill, promotes research-based best practices for programs serving English learners (EL).

Since the year 2000, the number of EL students in Massachusetts has doubled to more than 90,204 students, or 9.5 percent of the student population. While statewide graduation rates for students have risen over the past ten years, the achievement gap between EL students and their peers persists.

"This bill works to rectify a situation that has seen our public schools fall short in educating these particular students. I want to thank my colleagues on this committee for their hard work to find a solution for these student," said Representative Frank Moran.

This bill expands on the current mandate requiring schools to use Sheltered English Immersion (SEI) as the default English learner program model by giving schools

the flexibility to establish programs based on the diverse needs of their students. Under this legislation, school districts can maintain current SEI programming or choose to implement an alternative instructional program that meets federal and state standards.

This bill supports parental choice and involvement by expanding the role of Parental Advisory Councils and allowing parents the flexibility to choose programs that best meet their child's needs.

To better identify and assist English learners, this legislation requires greater tracking of academic performance and enhanced review of programs. Furthermore, this legislation directs the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to develop additional guidelines and supports for school districts.

Recognizing bilingualism and biliteracy as valuable strengths for students in a 21st century world, this legislation establishes a state Seal of Biliteracy. The seal will be awarded by participating school districts to students who have attained a high level of proficiency in English, and one or more foreign languages.

This bill will now move to the Governor for his signature.



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TOM DUGGAN’S NOTEBOOK

The Firefighter’s Relief’s In at 1 Market Street in Lawrence is celebrating yet another anniversary and as one of their biggest cheerleaders I couldn’t be more thrilled. Next month we will be highlighting some of the great things the Lawrence Firefighters Relief does in the community. There’s a reason we prefer to have our annual charity BASH at the Relief’s In every year.

**HEROES OF 2017**  
Each year we do Heroes and Bozos of the year, and while I know most people love the Bozo part, this year I wanted to highlight some of the real heroes in the community. Of course, no hero list could be complete without our first responders. Police, Firefighters, EMTs, will all be answering cries for help while you are sitting down to eat Christmas or Chanukah dinner. You might want to offer a prayer for them before you dig in.

**OTHER HEROES**  
Jen Jones and the Lawrence Exchange Club volunteer countless hours each week to help people in Methuen service those in need. They don’t get half the credit they deserve and the work they do makes a big difference to a lot of people.

Steve Paine and the Lawrence Lions - Steve Paine is a hero veteran and head of the Lawrence Lions Club. The Lions provide free eye screenings and help underprivileged kids and their families get prescription and reading glasses. Last month, they conducted a free screening at the Tarbox School in Lawrence. This month they are doing one at the Daybreak homeless shelter. They do good work!

Carina Pappalardo and the People at Daybreak - It takes a very unique kind of person to want to work with the homeless population in Lawrence. Carina and the people at Daybreak who work with the homeless are unsung heroes in my book.

Tom Connors and the people at American Training - Anyone who works with people who have special needs are special to begin with. But those who spend all their time trying to organize and network the rest of the community to help are priceless and invaluable. Tom Connors, Mikaela Reynolds, and the people at American Training are real heroes for all the work they do to help their clients get jobs, learn skills, and get an education.

Deb Carberry and Someone Cares  
First, she has to stop saying nice things about me or I’ve told her we can’t be friends anymore. That’s because it was Deb Carberry and her group Someone Cares did the amazing work of holding item drives, and then getting a group together to stuff hundreds of care packages for the needy for the holidays.

Rick Parthum, Chris Eldridge, Eric Melanson and the Lawrence High Alumni Association - Every year in the spring the Lawrence High Alumni Association gives out hundreds of thousands of dollars in college scholarships to graduating kids from Lawrence High. It’s an event that takes all year to organize, match students with donors, following up with parents to make sure they are accepted to the college, etc. More business owners and social service clubs should look at helping the LHS Alumni. They are making a difference in our future.

Brian Thomas and SLE Volunteers

They don’t come any better than Bryan Thomas of the South Lawrence East Little League. He goes out and works with kids in Lawrence and has been fighting for better fields for years. He’s been promised a concession stand before the start of little league in the spring and we are closely monitoring the situation to make sure that happens. Bryan also takes money out of his own pocket to pay for things the kids need if it’s not in the budget. Bryan needs help. Someone in the community in a position to help should reach out to him with a donation of some kind.

**JUAN MANNY GONZALEZ**  
Seriously, all firefighters are heroes (even the ones who hate me) but there is no bigger hero to me than Lawrence Firefighter Juan Manny Gonzalez. When he’s not putting out fires, Manny is running a nonprofit called “Heal Lawrence” which has a website that matches families who have been burned out of their homes with people and organizations in the community who are looking to donate items to help. On top of all that, Manny set up Lawrence Firefighters United for Puerto Rico and personally accompanied the donations to the island to make sure they were delivered to those most in need.

**THE EMTS AT LGH**  
They needed bullet proof vests because they were constantly called to crime scenes that are very dangerous, and sometimes still active. They got no help from Lawrence General so the EMT of LGH put up a GoFund Me page to raise money to protect their drivers and paramedics. That takes guts. I already had tremendous respect for the LGH EMTs but now I respect them even more.

VAV and the VETERANS NORTH-EAST OUTREACH - For sure there is no greater hero than a veteran who served this country. But, those who come back and continue to care for their fellow veterans are a rare breed. Veterans Assisting Veterans is an all-volunteer group of vets who work directly with local veterans in need. 100% of the money they raise goes directly to servicing a local vet. Last year, VAV helped a Lawrence WWII Veteran named Harold Bazin, pay off his mortgage when they found out the bank was about to foreclose on him.

Veterans Northeast Outreach Center in Haverhill provides free food pantries for veterans, clothing, job training, jobs, housing, etc. for any veteran in need. It’s like one stop shopping for any veteran who is homeless or having financial hardship, troubles with the VA, or even paperwork issues for benefits. John Ratka, Randy Carter, and the men and women of VNOC are doing the work of the angels. If you want to help a veteran this Christmas a donation to VNOC or VAV will make sure your donation helps a local veteran 100% with no overhead or other costs taken out.

**OTHER STUFF**  
**TRUMP TWEETS “ANTI MUSLIM” VIDEO... WOMAN PROSECUTED**  
There’s a woman in England who is facing jail time for tweeting. She didn’t tweet a threat or expose government secrets. She tweeted a video of Muslims in England committing crimes. The President then retweeted that video to highlight the real threat of violent Muslim immigrants. Whether you agree with him or not is

not the issue. Don’t be distracted by the endless whining on TV about how “inappropriate” Trump’s tweets are. The real issue here is that in England there is no 1st Amendment. People actually go to jail in England (and most countries) for saying or tweeting things their government officials don’t approve.

Can you imagine if Trump threatened to jail a journalist on CNN for tweeting an anti-Trump video? The mass hysteria would be monumental.

Yet, like chicken little, those who call themselves journalists on CNN and elsewhere, went into full freak out mode, painting the woman who tweeted the “anti-Muslim” video as a villain and using her prosecution as an excuse to condemn her as a bad person, instead of condemning the government that wants to imprison her for her views.

Newsflash: hate speech is not an exception to the right of free speech. I don’t care what morally bankrupt college professor told you differently. Human beings have a birth right to speak freely, even if they are wrong. That concept has all but died in today’s morally confused culture thanks to our corrupted education system and a political movement to make us more like Western Europe.

**METHUEN SINGER MADDI RYAN’S CONCERT SCHEDULE**  
12/8 Auburn Tavern - Auburn, NH  
12/9 Salvatore’s - Lawrence, MA  
12/29 The Brook Kitchen & Tap - Maynard, MA

1/5 Salvatore’s - Lawrence, MA  
1/11 Life Alive - Cambridge, MA  
1/13 First House Pub - Winchester, MA  
1/27 First House Pub - Winchester, MA  
2/2 Salvatore’s - Lawrence, MA  
2/3 Tommy K’s - Manchester, NH  
2/10 Polcari’s - Woburn, MA  
**COMMUNITY SANTA HOME VISITS IN NEWBURYPORT AREA**

Don’t miss the opportunity for your child to have Santa, Mrs. Claus or one of Santa’s Elves stop by for a home visit. Santa and his team will be taking time out of his busy schedule to visit good children in Newburyport and the surrounding areas. The visitors from the North Pole arrive with gifts, take some Santa Selfies and photographs, and listen to children’s wish lists. The Santa Home Visits program has been running for three years in the Newburyport and surrounding area. Another similar Santa gift giving group in the area is Ozzie’s Kids in Haverhill who will be delivering more than 850 gifts this year to Haverhill’s residents. Visit [www.CommunitySanta.org](http://www.CommunitySanta.org) or Facebook Message Santa’s Elves to learn more!

**BOSTON CELTICS ACKNOWLEDGE VIETNAM ON DEC 23rd**  
This year, the Boston Celtics are hosting



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a special event celebrating the heroism and acknowledging the service of more than two dozen Vietnam Veterans. Nominate your favorite Vietnam Veteran (can self-nominate or a loved one can nominate) to be entered into a lottery to win one of sixteen tickets. The featured game is on Saturday December 23rd at the TD Garden with the Boston Celtics taking on the Chicago Bulls. Requests can be submitted via email to Don Jarvis at [jarvis.don@gmail.com](mailto:jarvis.don@gmail.com).

**NEWBURYPORT WREATH LAYING CEREMONY SAT. DEC. 16th at 10AM**  
Remember. Honor. Teach. On Saturday, December 16th at 10 am, we are seeking volunteers to place wreaths on Veteran gravestones at seven Newbury Burial Grounds and Cemeteries. To volunteer in the wreath laying ceremony and to help place the wreaths in the cemeteries, please contact us at [newburywreaths@gmail.com](mailto:newburywreaths@gmail.com).

**WOBURN LIONS BREAKFAST CLUB**  
The Woburn Breakfast Lions are starting to sell Christmas trees in Burlington this weekend. They are looking for help to fill a few shifts. If you could help out

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

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How quickly Salisbury officials forget. In 1985, Salisbury officials signed a “U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Sewer Special Grant” condition agreeing “[Salisbury] shall prohibit connections to the sewerage system from any new development built within a 100-year flood plain, wetland, or barrier beach (Salisbury Beach)”. Salisbury received \$18 Million in federal and state grants to construct the \$18 Million existing sewer system, and sewer plant. The project violates Executive Order No. 181 Barrier Beaches. The Planning Board hearing will be held at Town Hall on Dec. 13 at 7:10 p.m.

they have 3 shifts on the weekends 9-1, 1-5, and 5-8. Saturday and Sunday. If you know anyone interested in working by chance, please have them contact John Marlowe. His cell phone number is 781-953-7578.

TECH SCHOOL HOLDS FOOD DRIVE FOR LOCAL FAMILIES

The Greater Lawrence Technical School is holding its annual food drive to benefit local families. Donation bins have been set up in the cafeteria and library, which will be in place until mid-December. All donated food items will be given to the Lazarus House in Lawrence. Suggested items for donation include baking supplies (flour, sugar, salt, etc.), cereal, pasta, canned goods and peanut butter.

Since beginning the food drive earlier this month, GLTS has already collected 60 gallons of food through the generosity of students, faculty and staff.

HOSPICE HOUSE IN HAVERHILL OFFICIALLY NAMED HIGH POINTE HOUSE

On Thursday, November 9th, Merrimack Valley Hospice held a ribbon cutting ceremony to mark the official naming of High Pointe House and to celebrate and thank Stephen and Joan Clark of Haverhill for their very generous donation in support of patients and families.

The newly named High Pointe House, the hospice and palliative care residence of Merrimack Valley Hospice, located at 360 North Avenue in Haverhill, contains 21 private suites as well as libraries, indoor and outdoor dining areas, family gathering areas and beautiful walkways and gardens. Since opening, the House has provided comprehensive end-of-life care to more than 4,000 patients, and grief and bereavement support to families and loved ones.

For more information on High Pointe House or to request a brochure, call 978-552-4186

BABS L'ITALIEN JUMPS IN RACE FOR CONGRESS AS WE PREDICTED LAST MONTH

Senator Barbara L'Italien Is Running For Congress. But you knew that last month if you read this notebook. The state senator announced that she is running for congress (her press release capitalized the “C” in congress, please stop doing that) to replace Niki Tsongas in the 3rd Congressional District of Massachusetts.

She announced the run in a short film that was released on her website, BarbaraForCongress.com. Putnam Partners, a lead media firm for President Barak Obama, produced the short film.

HAMPSTEAD ACADEMY STUDENTS BAKE FOR EMMAUS HOUSE

Grade five spent time this month baking pumpkin bread for the residents of Emmaus House. Emmaus House is a residence in Haverhill, Massachusetts that strives to help families and individuals by

providing housing and support services that empower their residents to reach their fullest potential. The fifth graders worked together to make 20 small loaves of bread for the residence. The bread was delivered to Emmaus House in time for Thanksgiving and served to the residents or were distributed to families in need along with other items for a delicious Thanksgiving Feast. The fifth graders were very happy to help others through their magnificent baking skills!

SHERIFF AND DA INVOKE ZERO TOLERANCE FOR CORRECTIONAL FACILITY CONTRABAND

Essex County Sheriff Kevin F. Copping and District Attorney Jonathan W. Blodgett today announced a zero tolerance policy regarding the possession or introduction of contraband into any Essex County correctional facility. Everyone interacting with an inmate needs to increase their awareness of contraband and not intentionally or unwittingly contribute to contraband smuggling. Essex County Sheriff’s Department policies prohibiting any and all contraband will be strictly enforced without exception.

Persons struggling with the disease of addiction will often resort to desperate measures to meet their opiate cravings, whether in the community or while incarcerated. All correctional facilities today are in a constant battle to interdict contraband including a variety of drugs.

“I will do everything possible to protect our inmates, staff and the community,” Sheriff Copping stated. “This will include the deployment of proactive, professional and reasonable tactics to detect and deter the use of drugs and introduction of contraband into any area for which I am responsible.”

“Individuals caught introducing contraband into an Essex County correctional facility will be prosecuted,” District Attorney Blodgett said. “Contraband threatens the safety of the correctional facility population and staff and will not be tolerated.”

There are currently 28 criminal cases pending involving inmates and families in which 32 people have been charged. In addition, 4 other cases are currently under investigation.

TEWKSBURY ICON, WWI VET FRED HENRY PASSES AWAY

Frederick Henry Baldwin, Sr., age 96, a resident of Tewksbury for over 60 years, recently of York, Maine, passed away at home in the care of his family on Thursday, November 9, 2017.

He was the beloved husband of Barbara C. (Beal) Baldwin, who passed away on July 21, 2011.

Born in Chelsea on June 25, 1921, he was the son of the late George and Freda E. (Leal) Baldwin. Fred was raised in Medford and graduated from Medford

NOTEBOOK: PAGE 24



Dennis Houlihan of the Clean River Project accepts the Book of Golden Deeds Award from the Methuen Exchange Club for their efforts to clean the Merrimack River. Houlihan was presented the award by Jack McLeod of the Methuen Exchange.



REST IN PEACE METHUEN FIREFIGHTER PAT MCKALLAGAT

Methuen Mayor Stephen Zanni and Methuen Fire Chief Tim Sheehy regret to announce that active duty firefighter Patrick McKallagat died suddenly at his home on Tuesday, Nov. 21st.

Firefighter McKallagat was a six-year veteran of the Methuen Fire Department and the International Association of Firefighters Local 1691. He served the community with distinction and displayed exemplary service to the people of Methuen during his career.

“All of Firefighter McKallagat’s brothers and sisters at the Methuen Fire Department mourn his passing. Pat was a well-respected member of our department,” Chief Sheehy said.

“The work of brave firefighters like him keep our community safe every day. We are extremely grateful for his service, and our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.”

Firefighter McKallagat was 37 years old and is survived by his daughter Aliya, parents Stephan and Patricia and brothers Mark and Shaun.



WATER: FROM 3

charged 2.8 billion gallons of sewage into rivers and streams in 2011 alone.

It was important to me to go before the Committee and personally testify to how this legislation would institute a common sense protocol people need in order to protect their health. Even if the exact quantity of the sewage release is still to be determined, officials and residents in Massachusetts deserve notification about raw sewage in their rivers in real time, just like they have in other states. Moreover, wastewater treatment plants should have to have generators for back up electricity.

I have worked tirelessly to secure monies for Methuen students to have a robust

rowing program on the River through the Essex Rowing, to keep the River clean from debris by working with the Clean River Project and to make the Merrimack more navigable in order to promote tourism and strengthen economic development through the River Cities Initiative. All of our efforts to protect and improve the Merrimack River are in vain if the dumping of raw sewage continues in Massachusetts and New Hampshire unchecked and unknown to the public.

State Senator Katy O'Connor Ives is a Democrat from Newburyport. She can be reached at KATHLEEN.OCONNORIVES@MASENATE.GOV





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- **John Webster**  
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The North Andover Soccer Association displaying their banner at the North Andover Santa Christmas Parade on Main Street.



FACEBOOK POST OF THE MONTH - "Viviana and Matteo Pagano wanted to let you know they approve The Valley Patriot and what you do everyday to discover the truth. #realnews!!" ~ RYAN DIZOGLIO



The Lawrence Lodge of Elks held their annual Christmas dinner for local veterans, complete with an acapella group to sing Christmas carols.



The Lawrence Lions Club conducted free eye screenings for grammar school children at the Tarbox School in Lawrence last month. Pictured above are Dave O'Brien, Bob Sinclair, and Nurse Norris who assisted with the screenings and helped coordinate the screenings with club president Steve Paine (not pictured), and the Superintendent Riley administration. A special thanks to Maria Cruz.

To the voters  
of Methuen

# Thank you.

Dear friends -

Six years ago, I promised you that I would be a Mayor of whom you could be proud. During my three terms as Mayor, I have strived to live by this goal each and every day.

Methuen is a dynamic city—with a strong economic base, active residents, beautiful schools, and an objective to always improve.

As I leave the office of Mayor, I will forever be grateful to you—the voters of Methuen—for entrusting me with this responsibility.

Thank you for the honor of serving our city.

Happy Holidays!

*Stephen M. Zanni*

## House Passes Criminal Justice Legislation with Input from Local Law Enforcement

Linda Dean Campbell  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

I am thankful for the input that I received from my local law enforcement officers and our District Attorney Jonathan Blodgett prior to the drafting and debate of the House Criminal Justice Reform Legislation. Their input produced a bill that is generally supported by law enforcement and by many in the judiciary that will be actively involved in implementing this important legislation.

The House Bill:

In a continuing effort to address the opioid crisis, this legislation creates the strongest law in the nation for the trafficking of Carfentanil and strengthens our efforts to combat Fentanyl trafficking.

It requires all DA's to create pre-arrested diversion programs for military personnel, Veterans, and individuals with a mental health or addiction issues.

It toughens penalties for operation of a motor vehicle under the influence (OUI).

It establishes a process to expunge the non-violent criminal records of juveniles, young adults, and in cases where a past offense is no longer a crime.

To help our youth recover from the mistake of a low level crime, we decriminalize the first offense if it is a low-level misdemeanor.

We continue to update our CORI system to help those who have served their time gain employment and housing to become productive and tax paying members of society.

We updated the bail system in cooperation with the IRS so a judge can verify and consider an individual's capacity to make bail or pay fees given their requirements to pay for food, shelter and clothing for themselves and their family.

I am very grateful that the Massachusetts House adopted an important amendment that I sponsored pertaining to curtailing solitary confinement for individuals with mental illness and shall create a review board to ensure compliance.

It bans segregation for pregnant women and juveniles.

It creates an independent board for terminally ill inmates to appeal for parole, recognizing the need for greater compassion and measures that save unnecessary costs.

Finally, in appropriate cases, the comprehensive legislation allows individuals to earn early release by participation in programming that shall help them become and remain productive law abiding citizens following their time-served. This should reduce our recidivism rate for inmates. Current statistics show 32% of those released in 2012 were re-incarcerated within 3 years following their release.



Former Treasurer Steve Grossman  
Endorses Dan Koh for Congress

Methuen Police Arrest Man After  
Two Homes Struck by Bullets

In an email to his political supporters and friends in the 3rd Congressional District, former Massachusetts Treasurer Steve Grossman today officially endorsed Andover's Dan Koh for Congress. Grossman, who was Treasurer from 2011-2015, is a successful businessman and also served as state and national Democratic Party Chairman during his decades of political and civic leadership.

"I'm supporting Dan because I know he'll bring to Congress the passion, progressive values, and willingness to fight to improve the quality of life for every person he's privileged to represent," wrote Grossman in the email to supporters. "He understands that the American Dream — a dream that his family's century-old story starting in Lawrence personifies — is out of reach for too many families in the district and across the country. He understands that securing the American Dream for others means providing a good, affordable education, proper job-skills training, support for small businesses and innovation, and an investment in infrastructure across the district. He also understands that in order to fight widespread income inequality people need paid family leave, equal pay for equal work, and strong workplace protections. And Dan understands that we need all of this to unlock the economic potential in the Gateway Cities that span the 3rd District — Fitchburg, Lowell, Lawrence, Methuen, and Haverhill — and every community in between."

"I am proud and grateful to have Steve Grossman's support," said Koh. "Steve's life's work has been about creating economic opportunities and social justice for families in Massachusetts and around the country. It is a passion I share and one that I will fight for in every city and town of the 3rd. If we work together, fight hard, and believe — we can protect this great nation by leveling the playing field and ensuring the promise of America exists for everyone."

Methuen Chief Joseph Solomon reported last month that the Methuen Police Department arrested a man after he allegedly fired multiple shots into two homes early this morning.

JOHN T. PAPPALARDO, AGE 51, OF METHUEN, was arrested and charged with:

- Eight counts of Assault with a Dangerous Weapon
- Two counts of Malicious Damage over \$250
- Discharging a Firearm within 500 feet of a Building

On Saturday, Nov. 4, at approximately 1:55 a.m., Methuen Police were dispatched to the area of Weybossett Street at Clifton Rd. for a report of possible gun shots fired.

Upon arrival, police were informed by a resident of Weybossett Street that a man, later identified as Pappalardo, may have just fired several gun shots in the area near his home and his neighbor's home. A preliminary investigation revealed that each of the victim's houses had been struck by multiple bullets. No injuries were reported.

Upon further investigation, police learned that Pappalardo had been seen driving a dark colored pick-up truck away from the scene.

Police were able to locate a vehicle matching the description of Pappalardo's vehicle parked outside his residence. After securing a perimeter, police were able to make contact with Pappalardo inside his home and he was taken into custody without incident.

Pappalardo was held at the Methuen Police Station on \$50,000 bail and arraigned in Lawrence District Court.

Glad To Be Back on the School Committee

**DJ Deeb**  
METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Although I ran unopposed in the recent municipal elections, it is nice to know that I am officially back on the Methuen School Committee. I want to take an opportunity to congratulate my colleagues Jana DiNatale, Bob Vogler, and Nick DiZoglio on their re-election bids. I also want to welcome new members Janna Zanni Pesce, Susan Nicholson, and Mayor Jim Jajuga, who by ordinance serves as Committee Chairperson. I look forward to working with all of you to continue moving Methuen Schools forward. I will continue to be an advocate of fiscal responsibility.

In late October, the results for the new MCAS Test were released. Methuen students scored slightly below state average on the math and english tests. Many of you are aware that the test itself has been revised and the system of scoring the tests has been changed as well. As a result, the 2017 MCAS Test results cannot be compared to the test results of previous years. Even Massachusetts Secretary of Education James Peyser has cautioned against comparing the 2017 results from previous years and has stated that this past "Next-Generation" MCAS Test was a trial run. Rest assured that Methuen Public Schools will be scrutinizing these test results closely and working to ensure that our students are prepared to take these tests in future years.

With the holiday season upon us I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the students, teachers, support staff, and parents of the Timony Grammar School for collecting and distributing food items to needy families in the area through the Friday Backpack Food Program. Students have been collecting nonperishable canned goods, boxes of cereal, pasta, canned sauces, soup, peanut butter, canned tuna, and gift cards to Market Basket and Stop and Shop. Donation boxes have been placed throughout the school to collect these items. Kudos to the Timony students, parents, teachers, and support staff for encouraging this worthwhile effort.

On another note, I want to recognize Patricia Comeau, who works as a school nurse at Methuen Public Schools, for

being recognized and awarded the Massachusetts Nurses Association [MNA] Image of the Professional Nurse Award on October 12, 2017. According to MNA President Donna Kelly-Williams,

"The MNA Image of the Professional Nurse Award recognizes a member who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in enhancing the image of the professional nurse in the community. Selection of award recipients is based on the nominee's achievements meeting award criteria."

Congratulations to Patricia Comeau!

Currently, members of the School Committee are completing their annual evaluations of Superintendent Judy Scannell. This is required by state law each year and I will be following up on the results in a future Valley Patriot issue.

Finally, it was reported in late October that a Virginia-based company (Crutchfield Corp.) is filing a lawsuit against Massachusetts for our state's demand that the company collect sales tax revenues from Massachusetts consumers. The case is headed to court and I fully support the position of the Virginia-based company Crutchfield Corp. which states that the collection of tax revenues from Massachusetts residents is unenforceable. It is truly

disappointing that Gov. Charlie Baker and a majority of the Massachusetts Legislature believe that companies operating outside of Massachusetts should actually collect taxes from Massachusetts residents. Gov. Baker is even campaigning on a deceitful platform that he opposes new and higher taxes. I am sure that the voters will see through this in 2018. I know that I will be voting for real conservatives in the upcoming election. More on this in future issues.

That's all for now. I hope all my readers have a safe and enjoyable Holiday Season! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

*D.J. Deeb is a Methuen resident and member of the Methuen School Committee. Deeb is an Adjunct Professor of History/Government at Bunker Hill Communications to the following college and an Adjunct Political Science Instructor at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. Deeb also serves as Social Studies Department Chair at Notre Dame High School in Lawrence, Massachusetts. He is the author of Israel, Palestine, and the Quest for Middle East Peace (University Press, 2013) and The Collapse of Middle East Peace (IUniverse, 2003).*

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LAST CALL: FROM PAGE 10

is simply importing violence," McNamara continued.

In June, a viscous nightclub shooting at the Dubai Nightclub on Jackson St., renewed calls by some residents and candidates for office to roll back last call, but those calls died down in the heat of the campaign.

IMPORTING VIOLENCE

"While our neighbors across the Merrimack Valley and beyond close up shop, shudder their doors, and ready themselves for sleep, the City of Lawrence awakens. Hundreds of revelers, not yet finished with the all-night party, rush to our city for last call. At closing time, these large groups simultaneously spill out onto our city streets, making the alcohol fueled violence almost inevitable."

McNamara said that he believes it is "bad public policy for a city that can ill afford it."

"The department has come a long way in the past four years. Our statistics show that our officers are working harder than



ever, and their efforts are paying off with significant reductions in most crime categories. All that progress gets overshadowed, and the city's image suffers when the general public wakes up to yet another report of the reoccurring and predictable violence that routinely occurs in our city at club closing time."

McNamara said that with a new city council to be seated in January, it is time to revisit this issue and bring calm to the city after midnight.





# An Exit Interview with Methuen Mayor Steve Zanni

PART I

In his last days as Mayor of Methuen, The Valley Patriot sat down with Steve Zanni for an exit interview to see what he thought of his six years as mayor and if he was able to accomplish what he set out to do in 2011.

Q: When you came into office you had some ideas on the things you wanted to accomplish. We interviewed you when you were first inaugurated. Did you think you lived up to what you set out to do?

“In the beginning Tom, you come in very excited and you [have] things you want to accomplish. But, with government it seems to move a little slower than I thought. But, at the end of the day the things we pushed forward in the beginning all took place namely, the high school, which was finished on time and under budget. The second project was the clubhouse and the renovation of our stadium. That took a period of time, but that’s been accomplished.”

“The third part of that puzzle is the track. That has not been completed. But, the money I have left from the high school project, we are putting towards the track. That’s the final piece, and that will be left to the new mayor.”

“Some of the other projects we’ve done? All the fields in the city have been redone. We have a brand new splash park in the Arlington Neighborhood area. That was missing for years for kids in a neighborhood who can’t get away [in the summer].”

“We have the downtown project, as you know is ready to start.”

“The governor and Lt. governor were helpful in getting us a million dollars for the gateway, which will be at the five corners, at the fire station.”

“We also received over a \$1M to do the rail trail over again. Now that we have the action plan approved by the state, they are giving us \$350,000.”

“\$200,000 of that will be held primarily to do [the] historic part, like lighting, etc. There are already three buildings that have been taken over, and we are working with some other developers but, that’s a great project for the new mayor to continue.”

Q: There seems to be a school of thought in Methuen that there is too much development in the city. Some people believe there is no plan for all this additional strain on the infrastructure, the schools, the police and fire. What do you say to those concerns?

“First and foremost, what I looked at was, what was best for Methuen.

“Methuen is a 55 and older community. This means [increasing that population] is not a drain on the school system, the transportation, and traffic issues are not a problem.”

Q: You mean these new developments are 55 and older?

“Yes 55 and over. There’s one [project] that’s not going to be 55 and over and that’s the one at the Loop.”

“But, that’s only a small percentage. If you look [at] what’s going to be built there, it’s going to be for affordability as well. You know, some people can’t afford [housing] ... you look at [the development] off of Howe Street.”

“Those homes are going for, from \$600,000 to a \$1M. That was unheard of a few years ago. Out of the 140 [homes], there are eighty-something that are already gone. There are already 40 or 50 families living in there. It brought \$1M in permit fees, \$1M in taxes, and it’s not go-

ing to hurt the infrastructure of Methuen. You know, some people keep saying it’s over development’. But, the other problem is, a lot of people say ‘not in my neighborhood’. They worry about affordable housing and what it’s going to bring in.”

“The truth of the matter is, we didn’t have our [required] 10% [affordable housing]. Up off of Howe Street, they were going to put in a 40B project (low income), which Toll Brothers eventually took over. In time, we have not only this project, but we also have Broadway next to the new Methuen Credit Union. That will be an affordable housing project as well. So, that’s going to bring us to our 10%.” [The state requires 10% of all new housing be reserved for low income occupants].

“Some of these new councilors coming in say we are being over developed. I’m looking at what’s best for our community. Bringing in the 55 and older [housing] didn’t hurt the infrastructure, it brought a group of people in and it brought taxes.

Q: Did anything surprise you when you took office?

“Initially, I thought what was good for the community was a power plant. It was going to bring in \$3M a year for thirty years and built in a setting that wouldn’t affect any residential neighborhoods.”

Zanni says he sat down with councilors and explained the project he wanted to propose but to his surprise 30 – 40 people showed up at a meeting to oppose it without even really knowing the details.

“And of course, the council backed away from it. They never gave me a chance. So, of course, that project was dead. I think the politics overall surprised me. When people start venting their frustrations, some of the councilors look

at that and get nervous about where their votes come from.”

“Another good example was the totes for the trash. I thought that was a great idea. A lot of communities have done it. That would save big money. They [the council] decided again, because 10-15 people show up in the audience against it, they voted it down.”

“The IT department took me over two years [to change]. They said, ‘you are picking on townies’ or ‘why are you picking on them?’”

“I said, ‘we’re looking at saving more than half a million dollars a year if we outsource it.’”

“The same thing with custodial services. I outsourced the custodians and we are saving \$50,000 to \$60,000 a year in this building alone. They come in at 4:30 in the afternoon, clean the building and they are gone at 10:30pm. They have done some other things as far as cleanliness that’s better than what was here before. So, I look at those things and it’s not so much about getting rid of people, it’s about what’s best for the community.

I also think, to answer your earlier question about not having any scandals. I don’t have a relative in the system. I don’t have a cousin in the system, and that made me work in a way that I can make decisions not based on the individuals that are going to be affected but what’s best for the Town. At the end of the day I am accountable to the people. I’m leaving on a good note. And I am going to leave a transition that shows, these are the things that can still be accomplished.

NEXT MONTH: PART II, Mayor Zanni’s thoughts on education and public safety in Methuen.

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COMING NEXT MONTH - OK OK! We said we were going to highlight Peck Industries this month but we got a little distracted with all the shootings in Lawrence. Who are these guys at Peck Precision Fabrication on Shepard St. in Lawrence? You will have to wait until the new and improved Valley Patriot is unveiled in January to find out. You might be surprised! From household items to specialty custom made, one-time designs, chances are there's a Peck product in your home or workplace. Look for their story in JANUARY!

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# Charlie’s Medical Board Repeatedly Violates the Sherman Act

Bharani Padmanabhan, MD, PhD  
MEDICAL CORRUPTION COLUMNIST

In the U.S. the government shall not favor one competitor over another within the marketplace. Charlie Baker’s Board of Registration in Medicine does this routinely.

The state medical board, statutorily required to be neutral, in fact is on sale to the higher bidder and routinely rents its powers out to doctors and hospitals in the marketplace so they can eliminate their competitors. This is a fundamental fact about how business is done in this state.

The only reason Rose McGowan has not been defamed by rich liberal progressives as an unstable conspiracy theorist is because it was the New Yorker that revealed her as the victim of an undercover operation arranged by Al Gore’s progressive lawyer and the reliably progressive Harvey Weinstein. If McGowan was who first said she was under surveillance, the entire clique of liberal journalists and card-carrying Democrats would have laughed at her.

Similarly, this column demonstrates the way Charlie’s board works, through its own words in a sworn transcript and an official order. Good luck calling this a conspiracy theory.

Dr. Mark Hughes is a super-specialist in treatment of the retina of the eye. There are few doctors in Massachusetts of his caliber. His license was temporarily suspended when he pled guilty to cheating on his taxes and was sent to prison for a few months. The agreement with the Board was that he would give the community 2,000 hours of free eye care upon his return and he arranged to do that immediately upon his release. We all love redemption, yes?

At that point, doctors at Mass. Eye and Ear Institute created a fake narrative. They cherry picked through his files on patients they had never seen and sent a manufactured record to Board “investigators” Marion Ead and James Paikos via lawyer Michael Kendall from McDermott Will & Emory. Kendall’s letter emphasized that the eye doctors wished to remain anonymous.

Doctors are required to report other doctors for substandard care. Named after MGL ch. 112 section 5F, doctors’ 5F reports must not be anonymous because “mandatory reporters” are granted certain protections to ensure the truth. And they cannot be filed by lawyers.

Section 5F also requires board investigators to evaluate a report first before running with it. Marion Ead and James Paikos chose otherwise, knowing the records were cherry picked, incomplete and submitted suspiciously by anonymous competitors. Red flags abounded.

Here is what Marion Ead said under oath to Dr. Hughes’ lawyer after claiming she investigated, at taxpayer expense, for two long years:

Lawyer: Which doctors came forward in this case?

Ead: We don’t have any names of individual physicians.

Lawyer: Did that trouble you as an investigator [at the Board] that you don’t have the name of a single physician?

Ead: (No response)

Lawyer: So you had this complaint for two years.

Ead: Yes.

Lawyer: Tell me what you personally did to identify who was behind this statutory report.

Ead: I can’t ---

Lawyer: Did you do anything?

Ead: No, I didn’t.

Lawyer: What efforts did you make to interview the complaining witness in this case?

Ead: We didn’t interview them.

Lawyer: But you can insist on the name of who is giving the complaint.

Ead: That is not my role to do that.

Lawyer: Whose role is it?

Ead: It’s complaint counsel. [James Paikos]

Lawyer: Did you ask complaint counsel to do it?

Ead: (No response)

Lawyer: Patients J and K were never seen by an MEEI physician, isn’t that correct?

Ead: I can’t remember.

Lawyer: Well, would it strike you that the MEEA doctors, the unnamed doctors, are now going through records when they are not even treating the patients? Wouldn’t that have struck you as odd?

Ead: It would have.

Lawyer: Did you notice that?

Ead: I didn’t notice that, no.

The magistrate correctly declared that the anonymous report was improper and the case must be dismissed. Charlie’s board was forced to dismiss the fake case and give Dr. Hughes his license back, after he was forced to spend money to defend himself for two extra years without any income.

Dr. Hughes’ competitors at MEEI were allowed a good run for two years. And what do they want now? To join Partners so they can charge even more money. How much is ever enough?

Charlie’s board however refused to accept that it broke the law by whacking him on behalf of anonymous competitors because doing so would raise the next damning question:

How much did James Paikos get bribed to bring that blatantly-fake case?

*Bharani Padmanabhan MD PhD is a multiple sclerosis neurologist who treated patients in the Boston area till July 12, 2017, the day the board stole his license on behalf of competitors. scleroplex@gmail.com*

## ROBIN’S KITTY CORNER



# Be the Change...

Robin Desmet  
VALLEY PATRIOT KITTY COLUMNIST

As I was strolling through the mall doing some early Christmas shopping, I saw a sign that said “Be the change you want to see in the world.” I’ve never been the type to embrace those corny sayings, but something about this particular sign struck me. I suddenly realized that I have been doing this without even realizing it, and that it is largely due to my volunteer work with the cats. Somehow, the animals have made me a better person. Let me explain.

In my entire life I had never done any type of community service or volunteer work. I know that sounds terrible, but when I was growing up, volunteering was just not part of the curriculum like it is today. I had donated money to various charities over the years, but I hadn’t actually done anything. About 4 years ago, I began to rescue cats. This happened purely by accident. I was at work one day and someone brought me a tiny kitten that they had found outside. I went back to get the rest of the kittens, and then the Mother, and then the rest of the colony. Thus began my volunteer work with the cats. Today, I mostly trap cats for TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return), rescue strays so they can be put up for adoption, and foster cats and kittens.

As I continued to rescue cats and do volunteer work with the MSPCA, I began to look at things differently. I was no longer in one place in the city just doing my job. I was walking around in all kinds

of neighborhoods, meeting all kinds of people, and seeing all kinds of problems. I began to think in terms of the community. I wanted to improve things. Over time, I began to realize that helping animals and helping people are closely related and often intertwined. I’m not only helping cats, but I am helping people who are helping cats.

Oftentimes what I am doing is very small and very ordinary. I am telling people about low cost spay/neuter programs and vaccination programs. I talk about the importance of microchipping and keeping cats indoors whenever possible. I am helping someone catch a stray cat in their back yard. I bring people food to feed the feral cats that they are feeding and straw for their outdoor cat shelters. I hear that someone opens their garage to keep a feral cat warm. I bring them a cat shelter with a heated bed that a friend has given me. I pick up trash. I bring people food and clothing. An elderly man asks me to feed his cats while he is away. I can see he needs help. I clean his apartment. I could look the other way, but I do my best to help. Small things.

It’s really not about any of these things in particular, though. It’s about helping people, educating, informing, and being kind. It’s about giving and expecting nothing in return.

It’s about trying to make the world a better place for people and for animals. It’s about being that change that I want to see in the world.

*Robin Desmet is a super awesome person and we love her. She’s a pharmacist at Packard Pharmacy and helps rescue kittens.*





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Beneath the Surface

The Problem of  
“Merry Christmas”

Paul Murano  
VALLEY PATRIOT MORALITY COLUMNIST

At the local department store. An encounter at the check-out register between Guy Shoppin and Clerk Clark:

Clerk: That will be \$24.99.  
Guy: There you go. Thank you.  
Clerk: Thank you. Have a nice holiday.  
Guy: Which one?

C: Huh?  
G: Which holiday?  
C: Any one you celebrate.

G: If it were the end of November you’d say ‘Happy Thanksgiving’, wouldn’t you?

C: Yes.  
G: And if it was New Year’s Eve, you’d wish me a ‘Happy New Year’, would you not?

C: I would.  
G: Then why is it that you hide only the name of Christmas by replacing it with ‘holiday’?

C: Not everyone celebrates Christmas.

G: But not everyone celebrates Thanksgiving or New Year’s on January 1. This Jewish new year 5778 was celebrated on September 20, and the Chinese new year on January 28.

C: Well...since not everyone is Christian I don’t want to offend.

G: Do you fear offending when you wish people a happy Hanukkah, Ramadan, or Kwanzaa?

C: Hmm....I guess not. But Christmas just seems to offend people today.

G: That’s because Christ offends people – those hiding from God, themselves, and the truth.

C: Well, I haven’t thought about it that much ...

G: It seems the mere mention of Christ acts as a mirror to the soul, into which they are not ready to peer. You can’t avoid saying ‘Christ’ in Christmas.

C: You may have a point. There is never any emotional reaction to the names of Buddha, Mohammed, Lao Tzu, or Confucius.

G: None. The name of Jesus challenges people and their comfort zones. He is the only one who claimed to be God, not just an earthly messenger or prophet like other religious figures claimed.

C: Then, if true, Christmas should be

a cause of great awe and joy rather than avoidance.

G: Yes. For those with a humble heart it is. But not to those in denial seeking to be their own gods. To them it’s a cause of discomfort.

C: Maybe they need to be discomforted. I’ve learned too much comfort breeds stagnation, keeping us from flourishing.

G: And if Christ is who He says He is, Christmas profoundly altered the universe and radically changes our lives. There is no reason for hopelessness, cynicism, or despair - regardless of our lot in life.

C: Why do you think so many today reject the faith of their ancestors, which served as the foundation of western civilization? When I was a kid there was no problem saying “Merry Christmas.” Everyone said it with joy, regardless of their religion.

G: There seems to be two general reasons for this sudden change: ignorance and pride.

C: (looking around) Lines are short and business is slow. Elaborate please.

G: It’s fair to say some people genuinely believe non-Christians might be offended by “Merry Christmas” and avoid saying it out of respect. However, as the past has borne out, this is not a legitimate fear. People of all religions get caught up in the spirit and joy of Christmas, even if they do not believe its theological claim. The real problem lies in the “progressive” movement which is ‘progressing’ deeper and deeper into the pit of hell.

C: Why is this?

G: There are several causes stemming from modern philosophy, but the underlying factor is rejection of God. Like blocking out the sun results in darkness, blocking out God results in losing sight of reality. This is why there is so much confusion and insanity with regard to what it means to human, as male and female persons.

C: Okay, but there have always been a few who have allowed their minds to run amuck. Why have so many “progressed” to the point where simply saying “Merry Christmas” has become offensive?

G: You’re right - it’s more than just an intellectual problem. Once the culture ate the new forbidden

CHRISTMAS: PAGE 27

America’s New  
McCarthyism

Aliana Brodmann E.  
von Richthofen  
VALLEY PATRIOT CONTRIBUTOR

Not since the McCarthy era has one segment of society been hunted on the kind of threadbare allegations with the unconscionable sort of zealotry today’s men of influence are.

Ever since Harvey Weinstein, pursued by tons of women for greater fame and fortune, or even just a bit of limelight, was exposed as a lecher by a sobbing hypocrite with a well-orchestrated PR agenda, and others too jumped on this bandwagon for their 15 minutes of notoriety with the waning producer, the leftist media had their new scapegoats.

Growing numbers, now defining themselves as the “hashtag # me too group” seized their moment, sobbing publicly 20,30 and even forty years after having been “improperly touched,” “invaded by uninvited tongues,” often repeatedly ( ? ) and in parts of the body impossible to reach with these women’s least bit of resistance. Of course they didn’t resist.

About the fourteen-year old young man and Kevin Spacey I’m truly puzzled. Where were his parents anyway? And had they not told him to stay out of stranger’s bedrooms, including hotel rooms? No one should suffer sexual abuse for having unwittingly slipped beyond established boundaries, but honestly: if going into bedrooms, hotel rooms, or other private zones and engaging in what can only be perceived as flirtatious or otherwise inviting behavior, means that you are not interested, what on earth must one do to show that one is interested? And did he get out or stay as not to jeopardize possible later “benefits”?

That goes for all of these women too who claim “sexual harassment” after having presented themselves as free for the taking. I’m not sure if anyone actually claimed they had been raped, and even if they did, what their definition of rape was, and what had gone on before the alleged rape, “improper touching,” “grabbing” or “tongue thrusting”? Because that matters. Dating, mating and everything between is a well-known dance, which most humans consciously or subconsciously perform to engage the other. And according to behaviorists, it is actually the female that usually initiates these dances. As they did in most of these publicized cases. By their own accounts.

By the way: where are all the usually opinionated psychologists, psychiatrists, sociologists, behaviorists etc., that usually opine so ardently on all things usual or aberrant?

Shouldn’t they be reminding us that human encounters consist of behaviorally established interactions that involve bodily movement, posture, eye expression, subtle and not so subtle verbal language, intonation and a whole lot of other direct and subliminal messages we send one another continuously and which we have always relied on in communication?

The circumstances in all these well-publicized cases were clearly initiated by women out to impress these men. The self-proclaimed “sexual harassment victims” courted them, visited them in their private quarters dollied up to the max and dripping with charm, no doubt. They may have miscalculated the outcome and didn’t enjoy the consequences. But that’s their mess-up and not unprovoked sexual harassment. And if the consequences were undesirable it would have behooved them to set matters straight right then and there. But did they? Of course not. They were insincere pursuing those men for calculated benefits and didn’t say: “no” because if they would have, these damsels might have lost the chance at what they had come to pursue. That’s not abuse or sexual harassment. That’s the two it takes to tango - tangoing.

But most importantly, there are serious transgressions happening, criminal acts of sexual abuse that impact and often destroy lives. And if we start muddying the waters between unlawful behavior and phony baloney, we lessen the seriousness of real crimes. We fail those who have fallen- or will fall victim to sociopaths that harass children in their school. We also fail those who are trying to work for a living without being harassed because of their race, religion, gender, appearance. And those retaliated against for having addressed improprieties that the powers-that-be want swept under the rug.

The stories of these real victims rip out your heart and soul if you have one but they are hardly ever reported on. The Boston Globe, one of the worst offenders of omission, has been informed of many such cases, some evil enough to have pushed victims to suicide. Instead this paper literally snowballs the “hashtag # me too” bandwagon. On 11.27.2017 its front page editorial read: Costs are high if the low-paid complain, subtitle: Women face big hurdles, including job loss, if they report sexual harassers,” a misleading article just to milk the sexual harassment cow from another ill-conceived angle.

Fact is: Anyone who reports the truth in a hostile workplace, no matter about what, gets

MCCARTHYISM: PAGE 24



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Lawrence’s Murders

Merry Wellness and a Healthy New Year

**Mark Gray**  
VALLEY PATRIOT CONTRIBUTOR

Lawrence under Mayor Rivera has hit many high points in the area of failure. He’s failed to recognize the historical failed MCAS rate, the opiate death rate has gone from 9 to 46 in his first 3 years, and he took the second lowest murder rate and escalated it to the highest murder rate in at least two decades, with room to surpass even the number one spot with a month of December to go. How do the people in Lawrence address this epic failure? With dancing, applause, and by telling those who are appalled at the crime in Lawrence, to leave the city.

Daily shootings plague the city, it seems stripped vehicles, car thefts, and hit and runs have returned, also in epic fashion going back to the days when Lawrence was the car theft capitol of the nation.

The shootings have become nothing short of incredible.

In one shooting, the police went to a home to ask about the bullet holes in the person’s door, only to be told that those were from a previous shooting.

A new, deadlier caliber of bullets has also appeared on the streets of Lawrence, and for those of us with weapons knowledge, it is very concerning.

One cop, as an example, after several calls to the station to pick up spent shell casings from a shooting, thought it would be a good idea to just put a shell casing in his pocket. Not ask about shooters, vehicles, look for evidence or bullet holes, just to pocket the shell casing.

It makes a person wonder how many casings have been contaminated and the chain of evidence broken. But this is just one of many examples of what happens when the public refuses to involve itself.

It is a leadership trait to look at problems and find solutions, even a poor leader could at least find people to get solutions to problems.

In Lawrence we don’t even have poor leadership. The mayor having spent his whole life in Lawrence, seems to only know what hasn’t worked and to repeat it. Along with the police chief, they have told the people Lawrence doesn’t have a crime problem, at the site of a decapitated body they told us the citizens had nothing to fear, and now after Lawrence’s tenth murder we are told that the mother of 3 at 25 years old, was most likely dead because of a drug deal gone wrong.

If the mayor/police chief pair were a hired hand they would be fired, people don’t tolerate a baker that can’t bake, a driver that is blind, etc. But in Lawrence city government it just goes on and on.

I keep shaking my head about the people tolerating a government that has the ability to solicit resolutions from the public but refuses to. Yet they continue to be re-elected. It still sickens me that in this last murder Lawrence would tolerate a mayor slandering a mother of 3 by calling her a drug user, rather than lift a finger to resolve the crime problem.

In their arrogance of refusing to reach out to people who could help with the crime in Lawrence, they would rather let the city fall deeper and deeper into a hole that it will take years to crawl out of, and beat down the victims.

For members of the public who have the generic response of ‘we need more police’, ‘we need the state to come in’, ‘the mayor didn’t pull the trigger’ I say two things:

Making excuses perpetuates the problem and enables those useless people put in charge.

Secondly, look for the person who doesn’t accept excuses for failure, and just finds ways to resolve the problems as a future solution. To be frank, when you excuse the mayor and the police chief and allow them to point to victims and accuse them of being drug users, you yourself have become what is wrong with Lawrence.

Criminals will be criminals, but to allow them to do it, to attack the innocent rather than the criminal, it’s just vile. Shame on anyone who is letting this continue. Personally, I don’t care what your excuse is, what happened to this mother is inexcusable.

If that is the height of your moral fiber, to excuse this, your shame is greater than any article or speech anyone can give to expose it.

**Rick Bellanti**  
VALLEY PATRIOT CONTRIBUTOR

Here we are once again in December, time to celebrate the holidays but also look back and celebrate any achievements we may have had during the past year. No matter how small of an achievement, it is always good to look back and notice what we have accomplished in a year. It may have been something as simple as not gaining any weight, to losing some weight, quitting smoking, running a marathon or just simply living life in a positive way.

You cannot dwell on the past, so anything you did not accomplish, there is good news! You have another whole year to try it again. Always remember it’s a lifestyle change not a life sentence, you have to live your life to the fullest. Try to stay on track towards your goals as much as you can but if you have a few bad days, it’s okay, and what’s done is done. There is no need to look too far ahead into the future; there’s no finish line in life till death. So take it one day at a time until you feel comfortable enough to take it one week at a time and so on. You have to move ahead and always push forward. Let the good days outweigh the bad days and you’ll see some improvement.

This time of year is tough to stay on track, between Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s, we all tend to overindulge. Don’t let a month on the calendar dictate how you will eat based on these holidays. Try to maintain a balance like always; keep up with your exercise routines and continue to hit that gym (maybe even extra if you are planning on going to eat more at an upcoming holiday party). Make good food choices when at the parties, sticking to salads and healthy vegetable dishes, pick lean meats and fish, keeping away from the trigger foods like sweets, pastas, potatoes, and breads. If it’s a pot luck dinner you are attending then bring your own healthy food to share so at least you have a dish you know is healthy and you can enjoy.

I highly recommended staying away from sodas, coffee, and alcoholic beverages, adding unnecessary calories and sugars. Drinking water is so important (see last month’s column) remember your daily water should be half of your body weight in ounces daily, keeping you fuller longer and flushing out your system. The holidays are about celebrating with family and friends and not about dieting, so indulge if you want to, but keep it within moderation.

The average person may only gain between one or two pounds during the holidays so don’t get too overly stressed, but remember that’s for an average person, if you are not the average person and tend to overeat and take on that mountain of Christmas cookies by yourself, it could blow up more then you want on the scale. Sticking to whatever program you are on is always the best choice during these times and having an extra cookie or a piece of pie is not going to reverse all your hard work.

Lastly, think about what you would like to accomplish in the year ahead and start writing down some goals. Keep it as a list of goals and get that word “resolution” out of your head. Work on that list and you’ll be ready to conquer the New Year’s like a warrior. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all.

*Rick Bellanti is a wellness columnist and is on a journey himself to lose 241 lbs, and has lost 160 lbs since the start of 2015. If you have any questions or comments, please post them to his Getting Healthy with Rick Bellanti Facebook page and once a month he will address a few of the topics here.*



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IN THE GROOVE with Cindy Annis

Connie Francis

**Cindy Annis**  
VALLEY PATRIOT VINYL COLUMNIST

Connie Francis was born Concetta Rosa Maria on December 12, 1938. She grew up in Newark, New Jersey with her mother Ida and father, George. Since her father didn't want children, he didn't start to build a relationship with his daughter until she turned three.

Concetta wanted to learn how to play the accordion, so her father worked hard to raise money for her music lessons. Her father encouraged his young daughter to play at talent contests, pageants, and to play at family gatherings to gain experience.

In 1949, Concetta's father took her to Manhattan to audition for the 'Arthur Godfrey's Talent Scouts Kids Only Christmas Special'. On the show, she sang 'Daddy's Little Girl'. After her first show, Godfrey shortened her name to Connie Francis.

Life wasn't fun for the Italian singer. Her father didn't let her have friends, or even go to her Belleville High School prom in 1955. Her father also had a say in what songs she would sing, what movies she could be in, and made sure that his daughter was properly dressed at all times.

When Francis turned 14, she got a job singing on demonstration records. The records would go to more successful singers, but when she recorded 'Freddie', MGM co executive Harry A. Myerson heard the song and thought it would be a great gift for his son Freddie. As a result, MGM gave her a ten-single contract. None of the songs did anything on the Billboard charts.

Not having a knack for writing songs, Francis met up with other song writers in the Brill Building in Manhattan. There, she met and fell in love with Bobby Darin. After being chased away by Francis' father with a gun, Darin broke up with her.

After the incident, her father suggested that she forget about rock 'n' roll and sing a 1923 song called 'Who's Sorry Now'. Originally, the song was not successful on the charts, when it was first heard on Dick Clark's American Bandstand, on January 1, 1958. In April, the song reached #1 on the U.K. charts, #4 on the U.S. charts.

To keep her music career on the right

path, Francis met with writers Howie Greenfield and Neil Sedaka. They had a silly love song that Francis loved from the first time she heard it. 'Stupid Cupid' went to #14 in August 1958.

In 1959, Francis recorded an Italian album at the Abbey Rd. recording studio in London. From there, she recorded more albums in Italian, German, Irish and Hebrew. In 1961, she started to record her own hit songs in up to fifteen different languages. Like Abba, she learned the songs phonetically and had a translator in the studio to make sure that she translated the lyrics correctly and that the pronunciation of the words were as correct as possible.

In 1973 after two failed marriages, she married restaurant and travel agency owner, Joseph Garzilla. Together they adopted a baby boy named Joey.

On November 8, 1974 after performing at the Westbury Music Fair in New York, Francis was raped and almost killed in her motel room at the Jericho Turnpike Howard Johnson's Lodge. A year later, her lawyer found out that the lock on the room where Francis was assaulted was not working. As a result, she sued the motel for \$2.5 million. This changed security for both hotels and motels.

The incident ended her marriage and sent Francis into a deep depression. She would take 50 Darvon pills a day. Since patients can build a tolerance to the pill, Francis's body could handle the high dose. Her depression got worse when her brother was murdered in 1981. Her doctors finally put her on the right medication for her depression. Although she needs high doses of Lithium, she goes on and off the medication so that she can perform.

Today Connie Francis remains a fighter. She has dedicated her life to mental health advocacy through her S.T.A.R. campaign (stress trauma awareness and recovery). She also helps American Veterans in her charity "Haven From The Storm".

*Tune in to Cindy's Vinyl Vault on 980 WCAP Sunday nights at 10, Monday nights at 11, and Wednesday nights at 10. Get your fix of the best music from the 50s 60s and 70s and even make a request at 978-454-4980. Remember it's not how old it is, but how great it sounds.*

TV TALK WITH BILL CUSHING



The Good Doctor: Network TV's Best New Drama

**Bill Cushing**  
VALLEY PATRIOT TV COLUMNIST

When Bates Motel ended its 5-season run in April, it didn't take long for its star, Freddie Highmore, to get another gig. Now he is starring on ABC's excellent new series, The Good Doctor.

The Good Doctor comes from creator David Shore, the same person who created the long running medical series House. You can definitely see some similarities between the two shows and the two main characters.

Highmore plays Dr. Shaun Murphy, an autistic surgeon with savant syndrome. Because of his autism, he has a lot of difficulty communicating with his colleagues. They, along with his patients, have a lot of problems trusting and respecting him at first. They are trying to figure him out at the same time he is trying to find his place.

The show also stars the always excellent Richard Schiff (The West Wing) as Dr. Aaron Glassman, the president of the St. Bonaventure Hospital. Dr. Glassman is a kind of surrogate father to Shaun. Having taken him under his wing when he was younger, and he spends the majority of the pilot episode convincing the board that Murphy is hireable and high-functioning. The episode shows us how Dr. Murphy deals with a medical emergency at the airport. Scenes of his highly improvised ways to rig up life-saving devices are intercut by the animated debate between Dr. Glassman and St. Bonaventure's hierarchy. It turns out that Glassman made a unilateral decision to hire Shaun. Now he's facing strong opposition.

"He's not Rain Man. He's highly functioning," Glassman pleads. "He sees things and analyzes things in ways that

are just remarkable. In ways that we can't even begin to understand."

Shaun's brilliance and his way of analyzing things is presented to the viewers by showing the images he is seeing in his mind whenever he is searching for the right piece of information that will help him solve whatever medical mystery he's currently facing. We are also shown a series of flashbacks that establish his rocky childhood, and his very close relationship with his younger brother. His childhood sets the tone for his history with Dr. Glassman.

The Good Doctor has been the best new drama series on network TV, delivering great performances and touching stories so far early in its first season. Highmore plays the role to near perfection and should be a lock for an Emmy nomination when the time comes. He was ignored for years while playing Norman Bates, but now with a higher profile show on a major network, that should no longer be a problem.

Adapted from a same-named 2013 South Korean series, The Good Doctor is co-executive produced by Daniel Dae Kim. He previously worked for ABC as a co-star on Lost, and then starred on CBS Hawaii Five-O.

It is the highest rated new drama on TV and it has already been renewed for a second season.

The Good Doctor airs Mondays at 10 on ABC.

*If you have any questions about TV you can email me at BillsTVPatTalk@gmail.com. I will answer all of your questions and will feature some of the questions I receive in a future Mailbag column.*

*Follow me on Twitter @BillsTVPatTalk and on Facebook at BillsTVPatTalk for daily up-to-the-minute TV news and discussion.*



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SUSAN’S BOOK REVIEWS

“Inside The Fire”  
by Heather Glidewell

Sue Piazza  
VALLEY PATRIOT BOOK REVIEWS  
© 2017 by Heather Glidewell  
Published by: Inkitt  
Advanced Reader Copy: 175 pages (eBook).  
Genre: Fiction, Fantasy  
4.8 out of 5 Bookmarkers  
I was hooked by the middle of the Prologue. I could not put this book down! Spent all day Sunday reading, eyes blood-shot, food to be cooked still in the frig. It’s been a hot dog day and I wouldn’t have had that had I not cooked them on Friday (before I started reading this book).  
If you are a fan of early Ann Rice or the Twilight series you will probably enjoy this book. It is an easy read that flows readily. Nice visuals. “. . . I still heard the words hissing past his lips.”  
Character development is spot on. Individual voices are distinctive and apropos to their age and station. I would’ve chosen a name other than Damien for one of the creatures. I recall the Exorcist and all the subsequent Damien films. But, then again, maybe this was what the author intended.  
Being a hybrid creates havoc for Dawn. (Named for that time of day where darkness turns to light.) We learn that she is special, something that should not be. She is raised by her mother then, after she remarries, sent to live with her father, who is also remarried. An incident occurs while with her dad that causes her to run away

and rejoin her mother. All goes along fairly well in this teenager’s life until she goes to her new high school.  
Dawn meets and falls in love with one of the few teens at school willing to speak with her.  
All goes well until Wesley’s ex, Melissa, decides she wants him back. She terrorizes Dawn. Another teen, a murderer, severely beats Dawn as payback for what her father did to him. Her mother calls her father and he comes to their aid.  
Much of the story now focuses on the ancillary people that surround Dawn, how is she going to protect them from the evil that had been unleashed and ultimately how is she going to protect herself.  
The author’s subplots really move the story along nicely. Clues that one doesn’t realize are such become important later on.  
The journey is half the fun and this book is fun. I just wish I could put this down and get some sleep! Oh well, always tomorrow.  
There were several grammar errors, which took me out of the story. Since I am reading an advanced copy, these mistakes are normally fixed for upcoming retail sale so I wouldn’t worry about them. I am only mentioning this to explain why my rating is not higher.  
The ending was fulfilling. While I was not 100% on board with it, I understood it from an author’s perspective.  
A nice easy read. I recommend this book.



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YOUR MONEY

Is the Snowbird or Sunbird  
Life for You?

Alex Talcott  
VALLEY PATRIOT MONEY COLUMNIST

As the saying goes, birds of a feather flock together. In the case of snowbirds and sunbirds— affectionate nicknames for traveling retirees—this is doubly true. Snowbirds are residents of Northern states who flock to the south to escape harsh winters, while sunbirds travel north in droves to get away from summer heat and humidity. If you’re tempted to take flight from New England in the “off-season,” think through the costs and logistics first.  
Keep tabs on your home. You’re right to be concerned about leaving your home vacant for weeks or months at a time. An unoccupied home may be vulnerable to burglaries, broken or frozen water pipes and other events that require immediate attention. To avoid preventable mishaps, consider asking a trusted family member or hire a house sitter to keep an eye on your property. Sophisticated security systems can also help safeguard your home when you’re gone.  
Choose your health insurance accordingly. If you plan to stay for an extended period of time in another state, make your Medicare insurance selections carefully. Many Medicare Advantage (Part C) and prescription drug (Part D) plans require you to stay within their coverage networks, which may not extend across state or even county lines. Medigap (Medicare Supplement) policies that cover some of your out-of-pocket costs under traditional Medicare (Parts A and B) may be used nationwide, provided the treatment and provider are eligible. If you require prescription drugs, you’ll want to make sure your prescription drug plan allows you to fill prescriptions at its network pharmacies anywhere in the country. Failing to do so could mean exorbitant out-of-pocket medical expenses that are not eligible for reimbursement.  
Make arrangements to receive mail. You may think your mail can wait for your return, but what about your bills and other important documents? Consider using automatic bill pay and mail forwarding services to stay on top of financial obligations. Also, let the professionals you work with (e.g. lawyer, estate planner, financial advisor) know of your address change in case they need to get in

touch with you.  
Explore living options. Unless family or friends are opening their home to you, you’ll want to weigh the cost of maintaining two residences. Renting a second home or condo may offer a more affordable approach than buying. Many vacation properties are available to rent on a weekly or monthly basis. You may also want to explore home exchange networks that allow you to swap residences. If you plan to travel by recreational vehicle, research the cost of facilities with the amenities you desire.  
Create a budget. Do you see your temporary move as a vacation, living your everyday routine in a new location, or a bit of both? Depending on how you plan to spend your time away from home, make sure you budget accordingly. It can be easy to spend on a whim, with the intention to get back on track once you return. Make a commitment to maintain your financial diligence by adding any travel, fun experiences or increased living expenses to your budget.  
Check in with your tax advisor. The residency tax statutes can vary by state, so check the rules for each state you live or own property in to avoid tax surprises. Your tax advisor can provide suggestions about how to keep your tax obligations to a minimum when you’re residing in more than one place during the year.  
*Alex Talcott, JD, is a Financial Advisor with Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. in Middleton, Massachusetts and Portsmouth and Bedford, New Hampshire. He specializes in fee-based financial planning and asset management strategies and has been in practice for over 10 years. To contact him: (603) 319-3108; 25 Chestnut St., Ste. 300N, Portsmouth, NH, 03801; www.ameripriseadvisors.com/alex.talcott*  
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NOTEBOOK : FROM PAGE 13

High School in 1939.

In 1942, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps and served during World War II with the 425th Air Force Base Unit as a Waist Gunner on the B-24 Aircraft.

He was awarded numerous decorations for his active duty service including the American Theater Service medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Medal with 2 Stars, the Good Conduct Medal, the Air Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Distinguished Unit Badge.

In May of 2015, Fred's service during World War II was recognized by Honor Flight New England with a trip to Washington D.C. to visit the World War II Memorial.

Prior to his retirement in 1986, he owned and operated the former Tewksbury Paint & Hardware Store, a Tewksbury landmark for decades.

He and his late wife were active members and supporters of St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Lowell, where he served for many years as a Vestry person.

Fred was active in the Tewksbury community and was a member and past officer of several civic organizations including the Tewksbury Lions Club, where he was past President, and the Tewksbury Golden Age Club and Senior Walk In Center, where he was a drummer in the band known as the "Silvertones".

Fred also volunteered his time to the Open Pantry of Greater Lowell by using his van to make food deliveries to those in need.

He loved spending the summer months in York, Maine, where he owned a home for a number of years. He also enjoyed attending socials at the Tewksbury Senior Center, and was a passionate New England sports fan.

Fred is survived by his daughter, Marcia Foster and her husband Harry (Hank) of York, ME; his daughter-in-law, Ellen Baldwin of York, ME; three grandchildren, Christopher Baldwin of West Hollywood, CA, Katie Baldwin Watts and her husband John of York, ME, and Christian Foster of Cape Elizabeth, ME; three great-grandchildren, Sawyer and Nora Watts, and Lucas Foster; also many nieces, nephews, and extended family members.

Fred was predeceased by his son Frederick H. Baldwin, Jr., who passed away on March 11, 2001.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Fred's memory may be made to the American Cancer Society, 30 Speen St., Framingham, MA 01701, the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758516 Topeka, KS 66675, or the Tewksbury Senior Center, 175 Chandler St., Tewksbury, MA 01876. [www.farmeranddee.com](http://www.farmeranddee.com).

MCCARTHYISM: FROM 20

fired and blackballed. I doubt Globe reporters don't know that. The fallout from the pervasiveness of workplace crimes produce hundreds if not thousands of unemployed people, the majority of them women, many of them minority women and often single mothers, unable to feed their families. But these crimes that really impact individuals, that really humiliate and destroy entire families, aren't reported on.

Mainstream editors will tell you that they report on what the public wants to know.

Aside from the fact that that's not journalism, they are lying because I'm the public and I'm not interested in phony sex stories that are circulated by fame and fortune seekers with the help of the Gloria Allreds of this world who would never represent a woman or man who was truly done wrong.

Maybe the editors who keep stirring muck are the actual perverts and should be held accountable for producing a sensationalistic scandal that isn't, instead of doing their job and reporting on the scandal that is.

EXCHANGE FROM 7

career with the Methuen Police Department where his father, Richard, was a police officer for over 30 years and was also the recipient of the Methuen Exchange club's police officer of the year.

In May of 2017, Kenny and his wife, Nicole, welcomed their first child Damien. Police Officer of the Year 2017 Officer Brian Hellman:

Officer Brian Hellman was born and raised in Methuen and is a 1998 graduate of Methuen High School. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Massachusetts Lowell. After graduating the Lowell Police Academy, he joined the Methuen Police Department in 2005. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the 2012 Police Officer of the Year. He was recognized by the Methuen Exchange Club, the Office of the Mayor, the Methuen City Council, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts House of Representatives and the Methuen Police Department for leadership and bravery in disarming two armed suspects, in a potential ambush scene without incident. Officer Hellman has also been recognized and received awards by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the City of Methuen for his performance in critical emergency CPR, resulting in the saving of a citizen's life.

He resides in Methuen with his wife Beth and three sons, Thomas, Patrick, and Sean.

Book of Golden Deeds 2017 Clean River Project:

Clean River Project Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to the cleaning and preservation of our nations rivers, lakes,

and streams. Their mission is to clean, protect, and provide a safer water supply to the many cities and towns who rely heavily on this natural resource. They are committed to improving water quality by raising environmental awareness through education and prevention, to develop community based projects and programs that reduce and recycle pollution, promote safe clean waterways and healthier drinking water. They want to create one collective voice in the future policy, planning and management of our waters by fostering partnerships and working together with community leaders, area businesses, other organizations, federal, state, and local governments for healthy, safe, clean drinking water.

Since the start of the Clean River Project in 2005, the Merrimack riverbanks have gone from being totally covered with debris to be the beautiful beaches they once were over 100 years ago.


All donations received go toward such items as boat maintenance, fuel, dumpsters and debris removal costs.

Proudly We Hail AWARD 2017 Donald & Susan Corbett:

Donald and Susan have lived in Methuen for the past 30 years. They fly the flag in honor of their fathers, who both served in the Navy during WWII. Don's uncles also fought in WWII and the Korean War.

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HUD published effective 4/14/2017. Subject to change annually.

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**Property Sales, Foreclosures for NOVEMBER, 2017 in Andover, North Andover, Lawrence, & Methuen. From Northern Essex Registrar of Deeds M. Paul Iannuccillo (All properties are listed in order; seller, buyer, address, and price.)**

**ANDOVER**

CA Investment Trust, Kombouras Realty Trust, 11 Trevino Circle, \$1,925,000.00  
323 Lowell St. Realty LLC, GRE Andover Medical Center LLC, 319, 321, 323, 325, 327-329 Lowell St. , \$16,044,834.80  
Alicia Clancy , Thuy Cung, 4 Woodman Ridge Rd., \$620,000.00  
New Brickston Land LLC, Fleming Avenue Andover LLC, Fleming Avenue, \$2,600,000.00  
43 Crenshaw Ln. Realty Trust, Stephen & Dawn Stanvick, 43 Crenshaw Ln. Unit 13-1, \$1,425,000.00  
Jeffrey & Alison Okun, Sevin Al Assad, 125 Rattlesnake Hill Rd., \$585,000.00  
Jeffrey & Alison Okun, Eric Haines, 125 Rattlesnake Hill Rd.,  
David Kim, Anne Murphy, 174 Haverhill St. Unit 332, \$395,000.00  
Susan Grieco & Joanne Blanchette, Shawn & Donna Breen, 15 Bradley Rd., \$520,000.00  
Virginia Mcleod, Shapiro Family Trust, 36 Central St. Unit 4, \$315,000.00  
Serena Dee, Virginia Mcleod, 170 Haverhill St. Unit 122, \$399,900.00  
Citibank NA TR, Yao Xiong, 400 Brookside Dr. Unit 400F, \$265,000.00  
Paul & Tabitha Ross, John Maier, 118 Rattlesnake Hill Rd., \$495,200.00  
Paul & Tabitha Ross, Cecilia Frances Partel-eno, 118 Rattlesnake Hill Rd.,  
Jennifer & Jeffrey Katstra, Douglas & Fou-rouz Brooks, 1 Cheever Circle, \$680,000.00  
Babydave LLC, Rkaco LLC, Greenwood Rd., \$311,847.00  
Anne & Leo Lamontage, Jams & Jordan Keefe, 100 Lowell St. , \$618,000.00  
Patricia A Pakos Living Trust, Paul & Tabitha Ross, 2 Heritage Ln., \$735,000.00  
Sui & Mei Lynn, Gregory & Jennifer Baden, 5 Deca Circle, \$658,000.00  
Lynda Isaacs, Bradley & Katherine Eardley, 7 Cuba St. , \$510,000.00  
Nancy G Turbett Revocable Trust, Ankur Desai, 55 Haggests Pond Rd., \$560,000.00  
Nancy G Turbett Revocable Trust, Mahesh-wari Ishwarlal Jariwala, 55 Haggests Pond Rd.,  
Jun Ding, Shuang Ji, 400 G Brookside Dr., \$238,800.00  
Peter W Neumann & Maureen A Neumann Dunphy Trust, Zhuang Zhang, 40 C Washing-ton Park Dr. Unit M9, \$190,000.00  
Peter W Neumann & Maureen A Neumann Dunphy Trust, Jienin Lai, 40 C Washington Park Dr. Unit M9,  
Jennifer Pratti, 833 Capital Group LLC, 2 Sheridan Rd., \$435,000.00  
Sutapa & Bireswar Chakraborty, Ajay Verma, 3 Chandler Rd., \$685,000.00  
Sutapa & Bireswar Chakraborty, Sonia Rawal, 3 Chandler Rd.,  
Legacy North Properties Inc, Jeffrey &

Kaitlin Hechenbleikner, 27 Kirkland Dr., \$570,000.00  
Brian & Sheryl Rose, Jeffrey & Jennifer Katstra, 8 Scotland Dr., \$1,249,900.00  
66 North St. LLC, Larissa Dossantos, 17 Boardwalk Dr. Unit 17, \$199,800.00  
Vava Imports LLC, Diane Digiovanni, 1 Harvest Dr. Unit 202, \$285,000.00  
Richard Gorzela, Jaffa Sharfudeen, 45 Juliette St. , \$440,000.00  
Richard Gorzela, Mohamed Anisa Jaffar Ali, 45 Juliette St. ,  
Dawn & Stephen Stanvick, Lowen Zhang, 9 Leah Way, \$839,000.00  
Ethan Gorsuch & Jennifer Sammataro, Dongmei Gu, 18 Dale St. Unit 10-D, \$395,000.00  
Ethan Gorsuch & Jennifer Sammataro, Boon Ping Ng, 18 Dale St. Unit 10-D,  
84 Andover St. LLC, Jennifer Sammataro, 64 Andover St. , \$499,000.00  
Virginia Shann, Richard & Marie Licciardi, 16 Balmoral St. Unit 403, \$219,000.00  
Shenbo Yu & Airong Sun, Taye Leykune, 190 River Rd., \$550,000.00  
Jennifer Silva, John & Lana Forecast, 67 Tewksbury St. , \$404,000.00  
Robert & June Shuman, Ellen Rothstein, 16 Balmoral St. Unit 202, \$245,000.00  
Frances Sidley, Murali Somavarapu, 1000A Spring Valley Dr. U 1000A, \$295,500.00  
Karen & William Catto, Lin Zhang, 2 Mul-berry Circle, \$890,000.00  
Karen & William Catto, Yichun Yan, 2 Mulberry Circle,  
Cleo Thompson, Netant Misra, 27 Corbett St. , \$380,000.00  
Cleo Thompson, Dolar Dhar, 27 Corbett St. ,  
Natalie & Jane Ketchen, Jospeh & Erin Mandile, 266 Highland, \$540,000.00  
Joathan & Lacey Jensen, Jake & Alissa Minkoff, 195 Haggetts Pond Rd., \$665,000.00  
Lori Dreyfus, Brian & Victoria Suslak, 28 Lincoln St. , \$535,000.00  
Karla & Christopher Sullivan, Leo & Cheryl Goyette, 203 Haggetts Pond, \$550,000.00  
CA Investment Trust, Vincent & Les-lie Tagiarino, 34 Crenshaw Ln. Unit 12-3, \$1,225,000.00  
Kenneth Marshall, Najir Pandey, 10 Donald Circle, \$582,500.00  
Kenneth Marshall, Sheela Shahi, 10 Donald Circle,  
LNS Inc, Qiang Zhi, 12-16 Hacienda Way, \$900,000.00  
LNS Inc, Hui Xuan, 12-16 Hacienda Way,  
Lorna & Lana Phillips, Marvin Sayles, nE Home Investments Inc & JPBrE Ventures LLC, 117 Salem St. , \$440,000.00  
Hacene Boudries, Sheryl & Antonios Bou-sios, 31 Tewksbury St. , \$410,000.00  
Yvon Cormier & CA Investment Trust, Christos & Effie Kombouras & Kombouras Realty Trust, 11 Trevino Circle, \$1,925,000.00

Anthony & Stephanie Scenna, Robert Baughman, 6 Ridge St. , \$325,000.00  
Richard Caron & JHR Realty Trust , James & Jacqueline Mason, 29 Bailey Rd., \$690,000.00  
Taylor Cove Development LLC, Guo Bin & Man Li Zhou, 20 Taylor Cove Dr. Unit 10, \$191,000.00  
Robert Cummings, Luis Sanchez & Alejan-dra Montes, 7 Dorset Circle, \$603,000.00  
Yvon Cormier & CA Investment Trust, Rob-ert & Cheryl Mongell, 3 Muirfield Circle Unit 1-2, \$1,300,000.00  
Sean & Rebecca Devendorf, Laura Reed, 30 Burnham Rd., \$349,000.00  
Cattle Crossing LLC, James & Esther Blas-kovich, 79-81 Chestnut St. Unit 1, \$419,000.00  
Ballardvale Rd. LLC, Faisal Bashir & Rabi-ah Rafique, 21 Ballardvale Rd., \$1,151,816.11  
Sheila Ln. & 165 Elm St. Trust, Michael & Emily Squillacioti, 165 Elm St. , \$426,000.00  
Katherine Reed & Susan Luere & Bride Realty Trust, Stacy Glancy, 12 Hidden Rd., \$1,100,000.00  
James & David & Joan Blanchard & Blanchard Realty Trust, Stewart & Heidi Nash, 163 Elm St. , \$410,000.00

**LAWRENCE**

Kathleen Marie Hart, Saint Christopher Properties LLC, 129-131 Bowdoin St. , \$239,746.00  
Pedro Cortes, Zunilda Balbuena Contreras, 14-16 Pleasant Terrace, \$359,000.00  
Pedro Cortes, Pedro Caceres, 14-16 Pleasant Terrace,  
AG & J Realty Trust, Sandra Martinez, 44 Pleasant St. , \$375,000.00  
AG & J Realty Trust, Jasmine Santiago, 44 Pleasant St. ,  
Ithaca Finance LLC, Raquel Hernandez, 630-632 Andover St. , \$125,000.00  
Remberto Herrera Galdamez, Edwin Gal-legos, 35-39 Loring St. , \$367,000.00  
Andres & Dolores Gil, Maria Gonzalez, 176-178 Water St. , \$380,000.00  
Andres & Dolores Gil, Jaime Paredes, 176-178 Water St. ,  
Jorge Matos, Jenifel Sanchez, 566 Andover St. , \$375,000.00  
Edin Marroquin, Jerez Electronics LLC, 46 Amesbury St. Unit 1B, \$40,000.00  
Latina Painting Pros, Art Silver, 538 South Union St. , \$18,000.00  
MFM Realty Trust, Dimas Disla Abreu, 95-97 Cambridge St. , \$415,000.00  
Sovan & Chamrong Tes, Isabel Martinez, 63 Garfield St. , \$246,000.00  
Sovan & Chamrong Tes, Willy Sanchez, 63 Garfield St. ,  
Jose Garcia , Aurelys Santiago, 96 Eutaw St. , \$275,000.00  
Payita Real Estate LLC, Freddy Castillo

Perez, 2 Lexington St. , \$232,000.00  
Jennifer Jordan Pratti, 833 Capital Group LLC, 2 Sheridan Rd., \$435,000.00  
Sutapa & Bireswar Chakraborty, Ajay Verma, 3 Chandler Rd., \$685,000.00  
Sutapa & Bireswar Chakraborty, Sonia Rawal , 3 Chandler Rd.,  
Legacy North Properties Inc, Jeffrey & Kaitlin Hechenbleikner, 27 Kirkland Dr., \$570,000.00  
Brian & Sheryl Rose, Jeffrey & Jennifer Katstra, 8 Scotland Dr., \$1,249,900.00  
66 North St. LLC, Larissa Dossantos, 17 Boardwalk Dr. Unit 17, \$199,800.00  
Vava Imports LLC, Diane Digiovanni, 1 Harvest Dr. Unit 202, \$285,000.00  
Richard Gorzela, Jaffa Sharfudeen, 45 Juliette St., \$440,000.00  
Richard Gorzela, Mmohamed Ali, 45 Ju-liette St. ,  
Dawn & Stephen Stanvick, Liwen Zhang, 9 Leah Way, \$839,000.00  
Elias Saad, Angela Acosta, 49 Kendall St. , \$260,000.00  
Daher Group Inc, Sayari Y Guzman Hi-ciano, 245 Prospect St. , \$355,000.00  
Julio & Milagros Liriano, Maria Javier, 20 Knox St. Unit 6, \$115,000.00  
Julio & Milagros Liriano, Freddy Frias, 20 Knox St. Unit 6,  
Kenneth Hall, Michael Tarshi, 77 Kingston St. , \$45,000.00  
Edison Villa & Margarita Fabian, Noel San-tiago, 131A Lawrence St. Unit 40, \$144,000.00  
Wilmington Trust N A TR, Marc Abou-Ezzi, 452 Riverside Dr. Unit 2, \$85,989.00  
Hugo Sandoval, Michael Perkins, 15 Elm St., \$315,000.00  
Hugo Sandoval, Scott Fairbanks, 15 Elm St.,  
Carmen Ruiz, Michael Moyer, 42 Crest-wood Circle, \$318,400.00  
Charles Hope Co LLP, Daher Group Inc, 39 Center St. , \$45,000.00  
Patricia Cozzone, 20 Berkeley Trust, 20 Berkeley St. , \$225,000.00  
Kimberly Un, Kenny So, 33 Amherst St. , \$175,000.00  
Fabiola Marchena, Emilio Marchena, 327-329 Broadway, \$388,000.00  
Mildred Ruiz, Jose Rosado, 31 Stevens Avenue Unit A, \$220,000.00  
Mildred Ruiz, Ana Reyes , 31 Stevens Avenue Unit A,  
Seaport Homes LLC, Mildred Ruiz, 9 Ford-ham Rd., \$289,500.00  
Charlotte Penney, Sonia Hernandez, 15 Montrose Avenue, \$239,900.00  
Charlotte Penney, Felipe Diaz-Cruz, 15 Montrose Avenue,  
Jacqueline & Ruben Agosto, Rui Costa, 50 East Haverhill St. , \$150,000.00  
Pauline Gallant, Michael Anderson, 17 Liberty Avenue, \$180,000.00  
Carlos & Lydia Raposo, Francisco & Fermina Hernandez, 33-39 Tremont St. , \$325,900.00  
E & G Realty Trust, Senobia Vasquez-Co-lon, 455 Hampshire St. Unit 455, \$170,000.00  
Robert Laskey, Modesta Ortega, 534 South Union St. , \$230,000.00  
Sterling National Bank, Claudio de la Cruz Guzman, 35 Rollins St. , \$210,000.00  
Long Ho Vu, Raymond Roque, 31 Grafton St. Unit 31, \$235,000.00  
Lawrence/Methuen Properties LLC, Trinity Van Brodie Four LP, ?????, \$1,604,570.00  
LMP Building 19 LLC, Trinity Van Brodie Four LP, 570 Broadway, \$378,679.86  
Evelyn Martinez, Alberto Ortega, 38-40 Center St. , \$398,000.00  
Evelyn Martinez, Albania Dominguez De-ortega, 38-40 Center St. ,  
Sandy Almomte & Almonte Realty Trust, Heather Mary Suruy & Belizario Suruy Char-vac, 60 Kingston St. , \$489,500.00  
Cammy Cuozzo, Manuel Garcia Rosado & Digna Nunez Degarcia, 262 E Haverhill St. Unit 2, \$112,500.00  
Santana Maria , Vanessa Ruiz Nova & Angel Diaz, 36 Spruce St. , \$259,000.00  
Kenneth Hall, Chhay Dy, 75 Kingston St. , \$225,500.00  
Luis & Maria Machado, Carlos Montesinos, 6 Harriman Avenue, \$410,000.00  
Eddy Guzman & E&G Realty Trust, Monica Nunez, 451 Hampshire St. Unit 451, \$168,400.00  
Helen Riccio , Ramona Lopez & Daniel

**CONTINUED NEXT PAGE**



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Gonzales, 293-295 Salem St. , \$450,000.00  
La Belle Maison LLC, Miosotis Montas & Sander Vargas, 14-16 Phillips St. , \$443,000.00  
Fernando DeJesus & Zaida Rodriguez, Jeovanny Vargas, 30 William St. , \$270,000.00  
Kelvin Martinez, Todor Ialamov & Stephen Philipov, 65 Shawsheen Rd., \$365,000.00  
Eva Lemay, Rafael Polanco & Joel Escoto, 23-25 Pleasant Terrace, \$310,000.00  
Constance Bufanga, Dominga Castillo & Harlyn Medrano, 119-121 Abbott St. , \$434,000.00  
Jose Romero Uselo, Cristian Hernandez & Yenda Peguero, 8-10 Graichen Terrace, \$425,000.00  
City of Lawrence, Jackeline Cacerez, 5 Spruce St. , \$3,400.00  
Eric & Katherine Zahn , Filipe Santos, 12 Halsey St. , \$271,325.00  
William & Patricia Norman , Jose Gaetano, 23 Eaton St. , \$260,000.00  
Allan Viana & Gilda Santos, Moises Rodriguez-Ordonez, 362-366 Park St. , \$370,000.00  
Brittany Couture & Craig Cowen , Ivan Acevedo, 20 Ayer Rd., \$260,000.00  
Lisa & Eric Wilson, Jose Espinal, 33 Lynn St. , \$299,900.00  
Wilson Vasquez, Pedro Deleon, 29-29A Exchnage St. , \$443,000.00  
Saint Christopher Properties LLC, Bassirou & Kristin Wane, 10 Beaconsfield St. , \$245,000.00  
RB Asset Management LLC, Nelida Rivera & Talisha Santiago, 25 Josephine Avenue Unit 27, \$270,000.00  
Mark Karongo, Mathew Kiio, 44-46 Bennington St. , \$460,000.00  
Douglas Daher, 179-181 Essex St. LLC, 179-181 Essex St. , \$340,000.00  
Alberto Nunez, Antonio Martins, 27-29 Dorchester St. , \$410,000.00  
Jesus Trejo, Junio & Ana Delahoz, 10-12 Webster Court, \$328,000.00  
Jean Stewart, Samuel Pierre & Elba Rizzo, 130 South Bowdoin St. , \$350,903.14  
Karim Vargas, Roberto Duran, 41 Maple St. Unit 29, \$175,000.00  
Thomas & Patricia Bastek, Julio Maria & Tauny Suriel, 11 Halsey St. , \$250,500.00

METHUEN

Fida Chahine, Carlos Rosso, 29 Elmwood Rd., \$192,000.00  
Jose & Ana Martinez, Linda Barr, 93 Bay State Rd., \$320,000.00  
Jose & Ana Martinez, Michael Macdonald, 93 Bay State Rd.,  
William & Cindy Blanchard, Jose & Ana Martinez, 9 Apple Crest Dr., \$429,900.00  
Colleen Stevens & James Patrick Byron, Yaritza Avila, 92 Pinehurst Avenue, \$292,000.00  
Century Builders Inc, Michael Urena, 2 Kimball Circle, \$549,900.00  
Century Builders Inc, Jennifer Tavarez, 2 Kimball Circle,  
Alcro Development LLC, Jolyn Burdin, 10 Ashley Ln. Unit 40, \$195,000.00  
Patricia & Timothy McGovern, Josue & Kristina Oyola, 106 Harris St. , \$425,000.00  
Alcro Development LLC, Peter & Judith Gilberti, 3 Ashley Ln. Unit 49, \$581,900.00  
Gloria, Michael, & John Peters, Susan & Paul Knight, Theresa Goshdigian, Virginia Panella, & George Mooshan, George Salas & Yngrid Decordero, 23-25 Lawrence St. , \$325,000.00  
Wayne Courture, Edward & Irene Ascolillo, 1 Bumpy Ln., \$700,000.00  
L & R Realty Corp, KMT Real Estate LLC, 78-80 Broadway, \$1,000,000.00  
Walter J St Amand Revocable Trust, Kevin Frontain, 201 North Lowell St. , \$325,000.00  
Tabatha & Derek Michienzi, Jacquelyn Moulton, 48 High St. Unit 14, \$179,000.00  
Daivd & Lynette Kimball, Mouhanad & Hiba Al Mhna, 6 Hobart Rd., \$410,000.00  
Jessica Kane, Junior & Nilda Peralta, 33 Alvin St. Unit 2, \$285,000.00  
Asadoorian Realty Trust, Carlos & Jennifer Medeiros, 78 Wheeler St. , \$325,000.00  
James Mannion, Victoria Monette, 203 East St. , \$350,000.00  
Incer Family Trust LLC, Jeffrey Lucas, 27 Harvard Avenue, \$320,000.00  
Michael & Victoria Napolitano, Brian & Julie Minch, 32 Louise Avenue, \$305,000.00  
Dennis & Coral Pimental, Juanita Saldana,

12 Closson Court, \$239,900.00  
Dennis & Coral Pimental, Gabriel Otero, 12 Closson Court,  
Suzanne Gann, Shane Petruzello, 41 Mer-rimack St. , \$352,500.00  
Gary & Debra Lucas, Joan Morana Zeuli & Janine Morana, 38 Sherwood Dr. Unit 194, \$540,000.00  
Gina Moylan, Brian & William Cole, & Tara Jones, Nguyet Pham, 23 Lorenzo Circle, \$280,500.00  
Gina Moylan, Brian & William Cole, & Tara Jones, Dam Phu, 23 Lorenzo Circle,  
Gina Moylan, Brian & William Cole, & Tara Jones, Uy & Thanh Nguyen, 23 Lorenzo Circle,  
Micahel Borges , Lucrecia Guerra, 11 Oak-land Avenue, \$280,000.00  
Allison Conway, William & Cindy Blanchard, 1 Riverview Blv Unit 207, \$230,000.00  
Guy & Linda Rodier, Alvania Lopez, 408 Forest St. , \$305,000.00  
Dean Zolubos, Judith & Veronica Cham-pagne, 34 Burnham Rd. Unit 402, \$239,500.00  
Dean Zolubos, James Kibildis, 34 Burnham Rd. Unit 402,  
Gallo Fmailly Trust, Hugo Sandoval, 12 Coronet Avenue, \$310,000.00  
Nadia & Sarkis Abrahamaian, Yatin & Diptiben Patel, 40 Danbury Dr. Unit 18, \$115,000.00  
Charles & Wendy Schofield, Socorro Al-mengo, 58 Birchwood Rd., \$225,400.00  
Joyce Warchol, Michael, Robert & Lindsey Riccio, 35 East St. , \$125,000.00  
Russell Hodge, Magen Jaffarian, 18 Clinton St. , \$191,000.00  
Anthony Scappaticci, Yesinia Arroyo, 144 Merrimack St. , \$345,000.00  
Anthony Scappaticci, Johnny Reyes, 144 Merrimack St. ,  
Norman & Sandra L Veilleux Irrevocable Living Trust, Jean Ralph Guerrier, 67 Wey-bossett St. , \$410,000.00  
Silva Irrevocable Trust, Full Throttle Invest-ments LLC, 53 Birchwood Rd., \$200,000.00  
Laura Taveras & Mark Evans, Han Ngo, 50 Frye Rd., \$395,000.00  
Andrew Darezzo, Yernise Garcia, 101 Elm St. , \$275,500.00  
Biadys Mauras, Eva Castro, 40 Lawrence St. , \$393,000.00  
Ronald & Mildred Bretton, Michael Crim-mins, 9-11 Canobioloa Rd., \$270,000.00  
Eva Castro, Rachel Chardo, 45 Washingont St. Unit 4, \$243,000.00  
Maple Park Reserve LLC, Jihad Maroun, 17 Mariah Dr., \$578,400.00  
Jeannine Cormier, Nvinicio Ventura, 218 Merrimack St. , \$250,000.00  
Michelle & Patrick Mccarthy , Bethany Hajec, 28 Pleasant View St. , \$308,000.00  
USA Veterans Affairs, Robert Palmisano, 21 Hampshire Rd. Unit 207, \$164,000.00  
Merrimack Valley Homes & Interiors LLC, John & Sara Nix, 2 Bernarrd Ln., \$440,000.00  
Shaun Herward, Thor Johnson, 52 Ayer St. , \$278,500.00  
Shaun Herward, Meghan Colligan, 52 Ayer St. ,  
B R Skinner Realty Trust, Joyce Gagnon, 16 Brandee Ln. Unit 8, \$226,000.00  
Walter J St Amand Revocable Trust, Aayusha & Utshav Shrestha, 197 North Lowell St. , \$453,500.00  
Walter J St Amand Revocable Trust, Vishnu Ranjeet, 197 North Lowell St. ,  
Glenn Pinet, Rey & Julie Santos, 226 Cy-press Avenue, \$390,000.00  
David & Laura Dolce, Stephanie & Pedro Martinez, 91A Pitman St. , \$500,000.00  
Ann Kalil, Cedar Real Estate Corp, 3 Er-hardt Terrace, \$250,000.00  
David & Linda Blanco, David & Carol Leary & Leary Family Living Trust, 17 Sher-wood Dr. Unit 133, \$600,000.00  
John & Donna Smith, Matthew Torrisi & Jayme Diefendorf, 20 Argilla Rd., \$570,000.00  
Gulido & Eileen Paradis & G&E Re-alty Trust, Jill Wright, 100 Currier St. , \$416,000.00  
Fred Boucher & Boucher Family Trust, Barry & Carl Strasnick & Strasnick Family Revocable Trust , 6 Russell Farm Dr. Unit 12, \$399,900.00  
MRM Solutions LLC, Michael Foley & Tanya Waithe, 130 Forest St. , \$317,500.00  
Robert Vargas, Rocio Mejia & Jason Pena, 64-66 Howe St. , \$460,000.00  
Hales Landing LLC, Keneka Men & Ky Hak, 25 Marjorie St. Ext., \$469,900.00  
Arthur BRd.hurst, Cory & Catherine

Kideckel, 119 Myrtle St. , \$300,000.00  
Walter Kobrzynski & Kobrzynska Realty Trust, Hillside Manor LLC, 423 Pelham St. , \$1,600,000.00  
Michael & Susan O'Brien , Leigha Gen-duso, 31 Harvard Avenue, \$370,000.00  
Cristobalina & Olenmys Solano, Xiorkys Solano, 11 Duma Rd., \$330,000.00  
Daniel & Suzana Petruccelli, Derek Perry & Carol Hajali, 21 Ridge St. , \$339,900.00  
James & Maryellen Chaisson, Carmen Ruiz, 27 Landing Dr. Unit 27, \$295,000.00  
Devon Lowlor & Laurie Ann O'Connell Living Trust, Daniel & Melissa Young, 26 Cox Ln., \$290,000.00  
David & Victoria Grimbley, William & Kimberly Welsh, 14 Deering Avenue, \$352,000.00  
Lynn Muccio, Stephen & Joanne Holton, 12 Sherwood Dr. Unit 116, \$595,000.00  
Paula Brennan, Laura Tenaro, 1 Riverview Boulevard Unit 7-208, \$265,000.00  
Veronica Binet, Maria Castillo, 15 Pilgrim Circle Unit C, \$140,000.00  
Maulik & Shailee Patel, Eddy Tatis & Wen-dy Cermeno, 65 West Ayer St. , \$415,000.00  
Anthony Liriano & Ingrid Quezada, Cindy Messina, 45 Washington St. Unit A-6, \$264,900.00  
Pedro Balbi & Brenda Lopez & 112-114 Tenney St. Realty Trust, Jelinson Gonzalez, 112-114 Tenney St. , \$100,000.00  
Pedro Balbi & Brenda Lopez , Jelinson Gon-zalez, 116-118 Tenney St. , \$450,000.00  
Gail Lynch , Sean Smith & Kaylee Krigest, 91 Leroy Avenue, \$225,000.00  
Raymond Flaherty & 12 Piedmont St. Re-alty Trust, Giovanny & Zobeida Camacho, 12 Piedmont St. , \$259,900.00  
Beverly & Craig Adam, Janice Park, 6 White Avenue, \$293,000.00  
Robert & Alisa Carbone, Sean Hester & Jes-sica Talbot, 220 Hampshire St. , \$300,000.00  
Rose Muccio, David & Ellen Maggio, 31 Sherwood Dr. Unit 174, \$650,000.00  
Jason & Courtney Barros, Michael Michaud, 65 Pinehurst Avenue, \$302,000.00  
Keith McIntyre & Eileen Wills, Pedro Garcia Lopez & Juan Lopez & Melina Jimenez, 25 Green St. , \$299,900.00

NORTH ANDOVER

Karen Anastasiou-Niven & Ralph Nivin, Louise Corman, 116 Kingston St. Unit 116, \$272,500.00  
Stephen & Ruth Diminico, Jeffrey Scales, 83 Colgate Dr., \$424,900.00  
Stephen & Ruth Diminico, Mehrnaz Amini, 83 Colgate Dr.,  
Robert & Rosalind Winne, Stephen & Ruth Diminico, 58 Colgate Dr., \$580,000.00  
Linda Ohara, John & Candance Aslanian, 855 Salem St. , \$567,500.00  
Richard Cavanaugh, TKZ LLC, 75 Nutmeg Ln., \$335,000.00  
Barry & Carolyn Champy, Khoa Duy Vo, 152 Waverly Rd., \$490,000.00  
Barry & Carolyn Champy, Sa Tran Nguyen, 152 Waverly Rd.,  
Michelle Tetreault, Elijah Greenwood & Brandi Feeney-Greenwood, 20 Beech St. , \$457,950.00  
Stephen & Dianna Jaskela , Eric & Jennifer Hagen, 37 Sullivan St. , \$450,000.00  
Scott Bishop, Pearl Avenue Realty Trust, 180 Chickering Rd. Unit 203C, \$235,000.00  
J C, Joseph & Wendy Bengier, Christo-pher & Phoebe Carter, 15 Colonial Avenue, \$600,000.00  
Joseph & Anna Robert, Adam Finn, 104-106 Union St. , \$415,000.00  
John O Horo, Damon & Samantha McGur-

gan, 100 Hickory Hill Rd., \$599,000.00  
Kittredge Rd. Realty Trust, Adam & Emily Gabrault, 20 Kittredge Rd., \$850,000.00  
Andrew & Maureen Heinze, Lynda Isaacs, 2 Andrew Circle, \$299,000.00  
Linda & Larry Mchugh, John & Karen Lunny, 136 Castlemere Place, \$1,550,000.00  
Winning Family Irrevocable Trust, Matthew Bolduc, 535 Salem St. , \$330,000.00  
Ehab & Nevien Sorial, Lesa Herrera, 7 Walker Rd. Unit 7-1, \$162,000.00  
Jennifer King, Joseph Coakley, 53 Fernview Avenue Unit 1, \$120,000.00  
Jennifer King, Mariette Reilly, 53 Fernview Avenue Unit 1,  
Sandeep Malalur & Swaroopa Seetaram, Alexander & Anna Oshirov, 36 Peterson Rd., \$458,000.00  
Donna Dolan, Victoria Alexander, 210 Chickering Rd. Unit 305A, \$148,500.00  
Katherine Silva, John & Ann Marie Trust, 4 Walker Rd. Unit 7, \$157,500.00  
Roy Gelineau & William Melin, Compass Properties Inc, 271 Stevens St. , \$460,000.00  
Luz Munoz, Dayan Tabares, 35 Village Green Dr. Unit 32, \$200,000.00  
Kathryn Hughes, Jennifer Bluff, 311 Stevens St. , \$570,000.00  
Kathryn Hughes, Tolga Yazicioglu, 311 Stevens St. ,  
Rahman Family Trust, Blue Cod Holdings Inc, 630 Turnpike St. , \$1,130,000.00  
Pollard-Murphy Family Trust, Scalera Fam-ily Trust, 8 Millpond, \$380,000.00  
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# CHRISTMAS: FROM 20

fruit of modern times and became dependent on the birth control pill, everything changed.

C: The pill is why so many today are offended by ‘Merry Christmas’?

G: It sounds funny, but it is a primary cause. When we were kids before the sexual revolution,

which was really a revolution against God and human nature, there was much more respect for women and for marriage. Today there are far more people walking around deeply wounded by premarital sex, abortion, divorce, and other dehumanizing acts. Many are in full denial mode trying to live with themselves, lashing out at those who remind them of what they’re denying. The name of Christ undeniably poses this challenge.

C: So you think unhealed brokenness is the problem?

G: Yes. It often remains at the subconscious level. Why do you think the angriest people in society are those most deeply violating their own nature: young unmarried college women who have fallen into the fornication culture and practicing homosexuals who have fallen to their disordered desires? Since nature never lies, the psyche rebels and unrest in the form of anger and depression sets in.

C: So the “Merry Christmas” problem is rooted in two elements: rejecting the truth about ourselves, as taught by the Church, and rejecting the mercy of God, who is willing to forgive and heal our transgressions if we let Him.

G: Yes! You have summed it up nicely: a

rejection of God’s truth and God’s mercy. Unfortunately, the dehumanizing power of sexual deviation, unlike all other sins, has a way of psychologically blinding us to the truth of our nature.

C: This is SO sad...All these people walking around wounded and miserable, covering it up with anger, depression, and faux happiness. If they only allowed the forgiveness and healing of Christ to penetrate, they would be at peace. This is really what is meant by “Peace on Earth.”

G: Yes, there is nothing sadder. Wishing “Merry Christmas” was something people enjoyed sharing. Today in post-Christian America it is a sign of contradiction – a threat to the politically correct narrative constructed by the Left to avoid basic truths.

C: Well, it’s high time we spread some hope and joy despite the resistance. For me this starts with saying for the first time from my department store register: Merry Christmas!

G: Thank you! Merry Christmas to you too.



Dr. Paul Murano teaches philosophy at Rivier University and North Shore Community College and hosts Beneath the Surface radio show on 980 WCAP. Paul has a doctorate in marital theology, is certified in bioethics by the NCBC, and teaches adult ed. at St. Patrick’s in Nashua. He is founder of Heartbeat Pregnancy Help in Burlington, and is a singer-songwriter-musician. E-mail Paul at PJDM@aol.com

# God’s Economy/New Math

Peter Larocque  
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

Did you know that God’s economy is totally different than the world’s economy? The world’s economy works on supply and demand and the careful management of available resources. The world’s mathematics, especially here in the USA of two plus two equaling four and subtracting two from two leaving us with zero is very limited!

But in God’s economy we see multiplication by subtraction and increase by division, please allow me to explain. Let’s look at John 6:5-13, “When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat? 6 And this he said to prove [test] him: for he himself knew what he would do.

7 Philip answered him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little. 8 One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, saith unto him,9 There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?10 And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. 11 And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would.

12 When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost.13 Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.”

First, Jesus has the people sit down which is the Biblical posture of Rest. Next we have Philip’s response to the question asked of him by Jesus which was a test; because we read in verse 6 that Jesus already knew what he was going to do. By Philip’s answer we see clearly that he was caught up in the vastness of the need or the bigness of the problem which they were faced with.

Followed by Andrew’s reaction to this same problem and clearly he is caught up with the littleness of the resources available, which was just five barley loaves, and two small fishes: How could so little feed so many? Both Philip and Andrew didn’t understand that in God’s economy a little becomes much which we see begin to take place in verse 11.

Jesus knowing what he was about to do, (wasn’t caught up in the vastness of the need and likewise was not at all concerned with the scarcity of the supply), takes the loaves and the fishes and gave thanks! In the giving of thanks we see this Miracle begin to unfold before everyone’s eyes, and as Jesus distributed the loaves and fishes to the disciples, the disciples likewise gave to the people who were sitting. Here is where we see God’s economy going to work as the loaves and fishes were subtracted from Jesus’ hands they multiplied

in the hands of the disciples and everyone ate as much as they wanted, until they were full! Another way of looking at this is as Jesus distributed, or divided the loaves and fishes to the disciples, the loaves and fishes increased! God’s economy in action, multiplication by subtraction and increase by division! Now that’s what I call New Math!

God uses this Miracle of the Feeding of the Five Thousand to teach us the HOW of receiving our Miracle! Whatever your need may be, financial, physical healing, healing from addiction, a broken marriage repaired, employment, whatever it is! Just place your need in Jesus’ nail-pierced hands and rest!

The Apostle Paul writes in Philippians 4:19, “But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” God supplies according to His riches in glory, not by my meager resources! At the Cross, immediately following Jesus’ Victory Cry “It is Finished”, God unleashed His inexhaustible supply of grace so that whatever you need is yours for the asking. The Apostle Paul also wrote in 2 Corinthians 8:9, “For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.”

The Apostle Peter added in 1 Peter 5:7, “Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.” We don’t just cast away aimlessly; no, we cast all our cares on the one who cares for us!

The world’s economy is so limited, and the reason is because man by himself is limited. But on the other hand, this same man when born-again, having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ The Son of God, enters a timeless zone where the power of the Cross resides and whatever he needs he receives! God so loved the world that He gave His Son, God didn’t spare His Son but He did spare you and I and now God has many sons and daughters!

This is the Son that we as Christian believers are about to celebrate the birth of. Isaiah 9:6, “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”

I would like to end this column by praying for you, Heavenly Father; I thank you for the wonderful gift of your Son, Jesus. It is in His name that I pray for each and every reader of this column. May your face shine upon them and your Grace and Mercy and Peace surround them as we celebrate with our families the birth of your Son. It is because of His birth over 2 thousand plus years ago we are your sons and daughters today and we are looking forward to His soon return! We so look forward to being gathered together to be with you, forevermore. Until then, may 2018 bring us closer in relationship with you and your Son Jesus Christ, Amen!

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year!

Love You All! Peter Larocque  
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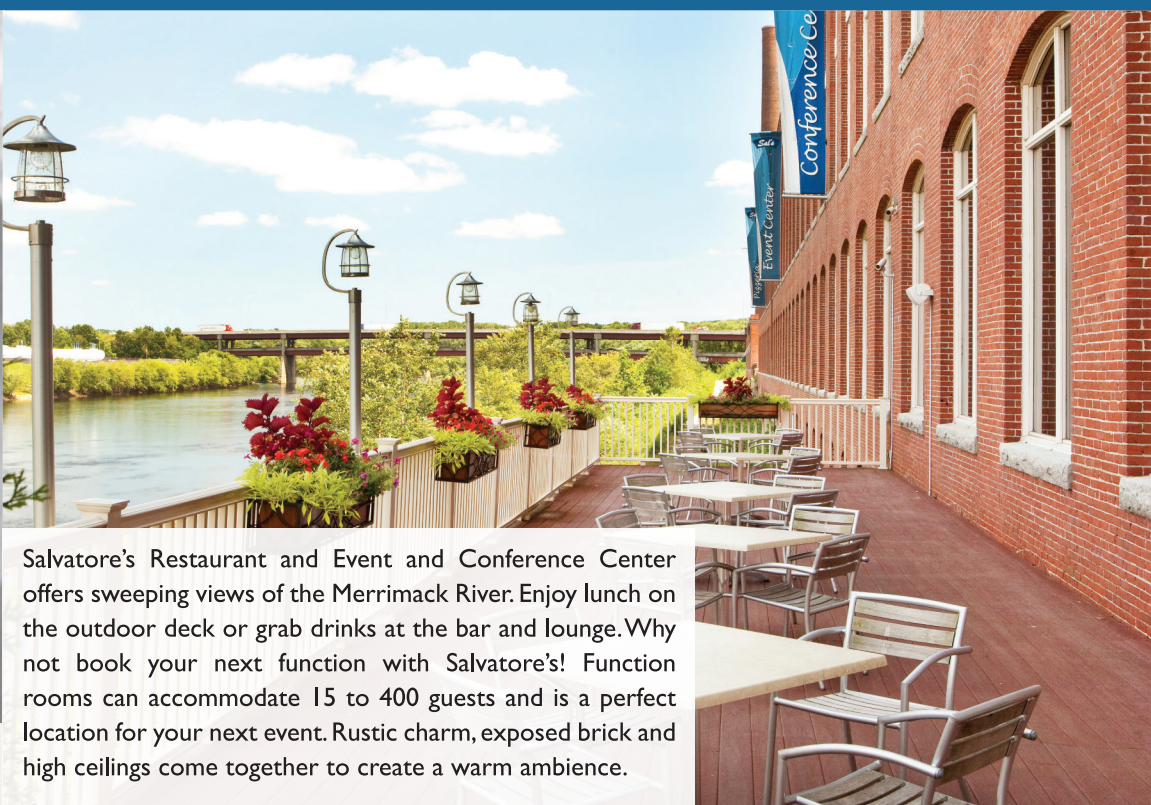


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